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GENEVA DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE SESSION PREVIEWED

LD231342 Moscow TASS in English 1249 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 23, TASS--TASS political observer Igor Orlov writes:

New potentially increased possibilities are opening to the session of the Committee on Disarmament of enlarged composition opening in Geneva on January 24. Along with the states which earlier took part in its work, it will be attended also by France, Cuba, Algeria and a number of other countries. Therefore, it can be described as a new important stage in the activity of the committee called up to decide topical issues in connection with the task that is central to present-day international relations--that of curbing the arms race, turning things first to partial and ultimately to general and complete disarmament.

The participants in the session can and must attend above all to the quite concrete and real proposals making it possible to put on a practical plane the resolution of such extremely important tasks as ending the nuclear arms race, strengthening security guarantees for non-nuclear states, non-deployment of nuclear weapons in the territories of the states where they are not deployed at present.

The exchange of views at the recent U.N. General Assembly session on the proposals put forward in this field by the Soviet Union has brought to light wide support for them. It must be recalled that an overwhelming majority of countries supported the Soviet Union's call that the non-nuclear states be protected from the use against them of mass destruction weapons on the basis of concentered guarantees of the nuclear powers.

The demand that an end be put to the perfection of the already existing types of mass destruction weapons, including the neutron weapon, is voiced ever more persistently both at the United Nations Organisation and outside it, among the widest circles of world public. A ban on all types of such brutal weapons would undoubtedly meet mankind's interests.

As nobody can deny the truth that the danger stems from the mounting nuclear weapons race, it is necessary in the first place to take measures so as to halt and then reverse the arms race precisely in that field. As for as the Soviet Union is concerned, it repeatedly declared that there is no such type of weapons, in the first place of mass destruction weapons, that it would not be ready to limit and ban on a mutual basis in accordance with an agreement with other states and then withdraw it from the arsenal. Maximum goodwill, the principled striving to achieve mutually acceptable accords on the basis of the principle of equal security, is the foundation on which the Soviet proposals in any field of disarmament.

Although questions relating to curbing the nuclear arms race undoubtedly call for paramount attention, the so-called conventional, i.e. non-nuclear weapons, the more so, that many of them have a tremendous destructive force, shall not be forgotten either.

Apart from it, and this is a fact of no small significance, roughly four-fifths of the world's military spending are channeled now to conventional weapons. It must be also recalled that according to U.N. figures, nearly 400 billion dollars a year, or almost 750,000 dollars a minute are spent in the world on military purposes. Needless to say in this light how topical are the proposals made by the Soviet Union repeatedly on a cut in the military budgets of the states having big economic and military potentials, in the first place--permanent members of the U.S. security countries. The funds thus released could be a big reserve for the economic development of the countries and for raising the living standards of the peoples.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
DISARMAMENT & SALT

It is by virtue of significance of all these long ripe problems, whose settlement cannot be postponed for a long time, that the session of the Disarmament Committee opening in Geneva will attract the closest public attention.

Brezhnev Greetings

ID241144 Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 24 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev, has sent a message of greetings to the enlarged session of the Geneva Disarmament Committee.

He wished the participants in the work of this main body for multilateral talks every success in solving the complicated problems related to ending the arms race and for disarmament. The message says the time has come for the countries and peoples, and for the statesmen who are responsible for the life and well being of their countries to realize in full the practical meaning of the alternative facing mankind. Either the arms race will be curbed and reversed so that the ideals of peace can finally be irreversibly established in international relations, or else there'll be a new stage of dangerous balancing on the brink of war with all the negative consequences for international relaxation, for normalizing international relations. The message goes on to say that there can be only one choice. It's necessary to redouble, treble and multiply tenfold the efforts to achieve a decisive breakthrough in the struggle to end the arms race. The message stresses the big role of the Disarmament Committee in helping to achieve this great objective. Its agenda includes such fundamental problems as measures for nuclear disarmament, a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapon tests, the problem of banning and scrapping the existing stockpiles of chemical weapons, a ban on the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction including the neutron weapons, the problem of reducing the armed forces and conventional arms and the reduction of military budgets.

It's no exaggeration to say that the future of all nations and the course of world history largely depends on the solution of these problems. The message says that the Disarmament Committee has accumulated great experience of dealing in a comprehensive and profound way with complex problems, of developing and coordinating multilateral agreements that have helped to limit the arms race in certain areas. This experience must be used now.

The message says the composition of the committee has now been extended to include nuclear and nonnuclear states situated on different continents and in different regions of the world, states that belong to military alliances and nonaligned countries. This provides increased opportunities for comparing views on concrete problems before the committee, for identifying constructive ideas and for selecting proposals that can promote progress towards ending the arms race. Full use must be made of these opportunities.

Leonid Brezhnev further stresses in his message that the Soviet Union is determined to do all it can to ensure the success of the Disarmament Committee's work. He stressed that the set of Soviet proposals for ending the arms race, which was introduced at the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament last year, and also at the 33d session of the United Nations General Assembly, is well known to all. In the Moscow declaration of 23 November 1978, the Soviet Union and other socialist member-countries of the Warsaw Treaty again called for rapid progress in solving the major problems of disarmament, nuclear disarmament in particular.

The message says the Soviet Union will continue its vigorous and consistent efforts in this field. Leonid Brezhnev says he is hopeful that 1979 will see practical results, which are expected by all nations. He says people in all parts of the world pin their hopes for a more durable and lasting peace on these results.

PRAVDA REVIEWS DEVELOPMENTS IN U.S.-PRC TIES, IRAN

LD231439 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 79 p 4 LD

[Vsevolod Ovehinnikov "International Review"]

[Text] What is political wisdom? What does it require above all: farsightedness and sobriety or resourcefulness and cunning? This question is far from new. Many generations have racked their brains and argued over it. But this week the world public had a pretext for thinking again about the philosophy of politics, about what should comprise its rational core. Is the desire to seek personal advantage in the loss of others justified? This idea, voiced by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev in his interview with the U.S. TIME magazine, gave mankind abundant food for thought. In fact, is this not the main obstacle to the development of Soviet-U.S. relations in a way which would make a substantial contribution to detente?

After all, if we regard the other side only as an "opponent," as Washington frequently puts it, then it is hard to lead matters toward the planned intensification and expansion of cooperation. Not only are new accords born in an agonizingly long and complex process with such an approach, but relations as a whole mark time or regress, as has essentially happened in the past 2 years. But with mutual respect for each other's sovereign rights and interests, states would benefit, not lose.

This applies above all to the completion of work on a new strategic offensive arms limitation agreement. If the principle of parity and equal security, which should serve as the foundation for the talks, is consistently observed, then the SALT-II agreement can soon be sealed by the signatures of the Soviet and U.S. leaders. The Soviet Union is by no means seeking military superiority over the West. It does not need superiority, but reliable security. This can be achieved only through a certain trust and the ability to consider each other's legitimate interests--which is the essence of our understanding of detente and influences other areas as well as the curbing of the arms race.

Taiwan's "Hongkongization?"

The shortsighted desire to seek personal advantage in the loss of others is also manifested in the gamble on the so-called "China card." Some people in the United States and other Western countries have grown so fond of the present Beijing [Peking] leadership's hostile course toward the Soviet Union that they have been tempted to turn Beijing into an instrument for exerting pressure on the socialist world. This is dangerous playing with fire. Following this, Zhai Zemin [Chai Tse-min], head of the Beijing Mission in Washington, stated that, now that the United States and the PRC are "expanding their joint front against hegemonist tendencies, Taiwan must agree to return to the bosom of its motherland." U.S. Ambassador in Beijing Leonard Woodcock told journalists that China had begun to withdraw its troops from the northern and southern shores of the Formosa Strait, that is, toward the Soviet and Vietnamese borders.

All these facts reveal the weaving of a deal between Beijing and Washington with respect to the Taiwan problem. Of the three essential conditions which it once advanced as the price of normalizing relations with the United States, China has been satisfied with just the first, that is, the break in diplomatic relations between Washington and Taiwan. The second condition, the U.S.-Taiwan Mutual Defense Treaty, remains in force for another year and U.S. arms will continue to be delivered to the Kuomintang authorities. [paragraph continues]

The third condition--the withdrawal of U.S. Armed Forces--has also been modified since, while promising to leave the island, the Americans have received a blessing on their military presence in the Formosa Strait.

The artillery fire had barely subsided before Beijing began a psychological offensive across the strait. The "appeals to our fellow countrymen on Taiwan" were followed by other political pirouettes. In a talk with a group of U.S. senators, Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-Ping] stated unambiguously that Taiwan could receive autonomous status similar to the status of Hong Kong or Macao, that is, it could retain its present social and political system and armed forces.

Many commentators regard "reunification" of this sort as capitulationism and as accepting the formula of "two Chinas." It seems, however, that this is not only a concession to imperialism but also a form of merging with it. The Beijing hegemonists, as we can see, are not adverse to keeping under the PRC's five-star flag a "capitalist reserve" and an even wider window onto the West than Hong Kong. For the sake of extracting foreign currency, equipment and technology they are prepared to doom to long-term capitalist exploitation, perhaps for a thousand years, not only the island's 17 million inhabitants but also the workers of mainland China, who will become suppliers of raw material and semifinished products for Taiwan enterprises belonging mainly to U.S. corporations.

To all appearances the deal on the Taiwan problem also has a military-strategic aspect. The same group of U.S. senators whom Deng Xiaoping informed of the present terms for "reunification" discovered, according to the Washington POST, "great interest on Beijing's part in indirect military cooperation between China, Japan and the United States." The Beijing leaders have a number of openly voiced desires on this score. First, they would like the United States to expand its naval presence in the Western Pacific; second, they would like Japan to build up its military potential more actively; and third, they would like the Southeast Asian countries to coordinate their efforts more closely in the defense sphere.

Bases, blocs, the resurrection of Japanese militarism--it was for all this, word for word, that none other than John Foster Dulles, whose anticommunist adventures cost the peoples of Asia and the U.S. a pretty penny, fought at the beginning of the cold war.

What sort of response are such appeals meeting in Washington now? It must be admitted that people there are displaying far less eagerness to talk about the geopolitical consequences of the deal with Beijing. But the question arises: Why, against the background of the Sino-U.S. "honeymoon," has the almost completed process of normalized relations between the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam been delayed?

And, finally, do Washington and Beijing not have a common interest in the U.S. President's intention to revise the question of the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea? It is significant that those same senators to whom Deng Xiaoping proposed his program for "indirect military cooperation" between China and the United States in Asia are fighting for this. These senators visited Seoul after Beijing. Who can tell, perhaps the Beijing hegemonists see the presence of U.S. troops on the Korean Peninsula as an advantageous form of pressure on the DPRK?

A Trumped Card

The shah's departure from the country has marked a new stage in the Iran crisis. It revealed a scandalous blunder on the part of those who like gambles in the Washington political poker game. [paragraph continues]

Had Brzezinski not been giving assurances for a long time of unconditional, one hundred percent support for the shah, had the White House not long been giving assurances that it would "do everything possible and convince our anxious allies that we are prepared, if necessary, to go through fire and water with the shah?" Now the card on which they had obstinately "staked their all" [shli "na-bank"] has been trumped.

Until very recently interpretation of Iranian events in the Western press followed a simple formula. An enlightened monarch, like some Iranian Peter, had "with a rod of iron" raised an indigent and backward country to accomplish, under a sudden and short-lived shower of petrodollars, a leap from feudalism into the 20th century and made Iran "the Japan of the Middle East." But the "white revolution" conferred from above apparently encountered resistance from the opponents of modernization and the Western way of life, disguised in the "black-red alliance" of the Moslem clergy and Marxist trouble-makers.

To depict the Iranian crisis as some kind of "Streltsy revolt" [a reference to mutiny of palace guards protesting against modernization in Russia during the reign of Peter I] of opponents of modernization is at least naive. The enormous explosion which has hit Iran like an earthquake has been brought about by objective social causes. Its energy accumulated for years as the inevitable product of contradictions between the feverish monopoly boom and the feudal system. The flood of petrodollars did not bring prosperity to Iran. Modernization did not rescue the people from need. The initiator of the "white revolution" was essentially a salesman for foreign capital. He traded in the country's natural resources, and in his conception of Iran's interests he was at loggerheads with almost all classes of society.

It is no surprise that, under a complete ban on any kind of political activity, the wrath of the people's masses should have merged with the dissatisfaction of the Shi'ite priesthood which regarded the shah's Western orientation and reforms as a threat to the influence of Islam. Having long ago created a reputation for themselves as opponents of tyrannical self-interest, the Shi'ite have found themselves on the crest of events, for they have given expression to the protest which has developed among the people against the shah's despotism and U.S. dominance. The social outburst has also acquired a religious coloring, because radical opposition in Iran was so drained by repressions that at the time of the crisis there was no political organization capable of leading the masses.

The demand for the overthrow of the shah's regime has rallied the most diverse elements. For this reason Iranian reaction and the transatlantic circles backing it both before and after the shah's departure have been gambling on splitting the opposition and have been confusing its right wing by alleging that the social forces now set in motion could not only sweep away the "peacock throne" but also turn against the interests of the national bourgeoisie and Moslem clergy. A treacherous deal of this sort, like a military coup on the Chile model, is by no means inconceivable, particularly since the shah's U.S. patrons would like to direct events along just such a channel.

Its failure in Iran, the U.S. press unanimously notes, has forced Washington to revise its whole policy in the Persian Gulf and Near East region. First, it is forced to search frantically for a "second support" for the strategic and economic interests of U.S. imperialism in the zone from which the capitalist world obtains half the oil it needs; and, second, it must resist the "erosion of confidence" in the United States on the part of other pro-U.S. regimes in this region.

"Whether Washington's last-minute attempt to dissociate itself from the shah will lower the pitch of passions in Iran is a troublesome issue. But it threatens to increase the tension between the United States and its main ally in the Arab world--Saudi Arabia," the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR notes. Riyadh is comparing the fate of the sacrificed shah with the fate of the Taiwan ruler Chiang Ching-Kuo. The transfer of U.S. F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia instead of moving an aircraft carrier formation of the 7th Fleet into the Persian Gulf was also the result of Washington's agonizing dilemma of how to reassure its allies with a "show of strength" in the crisis zone without inciting anti-U.S. feelings in Iran itself.

But, whatever the outcome of events in Iran, U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT notes, that country will scarcely remain the guardian of the Persian Gulf for the United States. The Carter administration has already begun to elaborate emergency plans on this score. According to the journal, one of the acts it has in mind is the creation of an unofficial military alliance with the participation of Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. This new pressure is needed on Cairo and Tel Aviv to accelerate the completion of the Camp David deal.

Another plan provides for an increase in arms deliveries to Turkey and Pakistan (there has already been an initiative on holding talks with Ankara on bilateral cooperation in the defense sphere). Finally, a third plan, according to U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, touches on stepping up the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf region (this involves creating specially equipped forces comprising two army divisions and a Marine detachment).

A whole series of facts could be cited attesting that the magazine's conclusions are by no means unfounded. First, a new round of shuttle diplomacy designed to push the participants of the Camp David meeting toward each other has already begun. Second, it has been decided to transfer the CIA's electronic stations for tracking Soviet missile flights to countries adjacent to Iran.

The Iran crisis gives food for thought for those statesmen and those regimes which waive national interests for the sake of a dirty and risky political game in which they sometimes become the victims of their own partners' international gamble. What is the ultimate meaning of the search of a new bulwark in the notorious "arc of instability?" More military coalitions, more bases, more "aircraft carrier diplomacy." Surely the events of the postwar decades must tell the imperialist strategists that in attempting to extricate themselves from their failure in Iran by using Dulles' methods, they are sowing the seeds of new crises and new failures?

No, political wisdom has nothing in common with the gambler's skill in bluffing at poker and misleading his opponent. Even in commerce--not to mention politics--it is hardly sensible to seek one's own advantage in the loss of others. This is borne out by historical experience. This is borne out by the successes of Soviet foreign policy, which rejects unscrupulous politicking and cultivates respect for the legitimate interests of other states.

Behind the sharp turns in the international situation the main point shows through one way or another--the confident advance of the forces of peace, progress and national freedom. These words, heard during the meeting between the Soviet and Bulgarian leaders in Sofia, could serve as an epigraph to the analysis of the past week's events.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
GENERAL

SHISHLIN COMMENTS ON 'ACUTE SITUATIONS' IN WORLD

LD230144 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 22 Jan 79 LD

[Nikolay Shishlin commentary]

[Text] And now here's a commentary from our observer, Nikolay Shishlin, about some aspects of the process of easing international tension: Quite a few acute problems have arisen lately over the fate of developing countries in Africa and in other continents. These problems stem not only from the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, but also from the energetic searches by the newly liberated states for the most effective ways to overcome their legacy of the colonial past. Quite often, various events, say, in Africa, are viewed not in the context of their internal development but primarily from the angle of their possible influence on relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, between capitalism and socialism.

No doubt the basic issue is how to view the changing world and changes that occur on national grounds and are connected with searches for ways for future development by one nation or another.

As for the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, they feel it necessary to quickly follow the norms of equality and noninterference in the affairs of other countries. They regard the nation's right to independent development and freedom as sacred and in complete accord with the UN decisions on help to fighters against racism and colonialism. Effective support is given by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries to the liberation movements in Africa and other parts of the world.

Soviet policy proceeds from the assumption that the relaxation of tension should spread to all parts of the world, including Africa; and this in no way (counters) the course of supporting the national liberation movement. As Leonid Brezhnev emphasized in his interview with the TIME magazine, it would be unfair and unrealistic to expect the nations of Africa, the Middle East or other regions to give up the struggle for their legitimate rights for the sake of the relaxation of tension, which is misinterpreted by some figures. Concerning events in Africa, Leonid Brezhnev noted further that the threat to the relaxation of tension comes from the policy against the nations fighting for liberation from colonialist and racist oppression, against new colonialism for independence and social progress, and not from the nations' struggle for their rights itself.

Now let's take the events that took place in Angola. The reality is such that military help was given by the socialist countries to Angola at a time when, with the U.S. blessing, racist South Africa, using mercenaries and separatist forces, tried to crush the newly independent republic. The actions of South Africa and its accomplices cannot be assessed other than direct and subversive actions against a sovereign state. Of course, the blessing of the policy of Pretoria's racists ran counter to the policy of relaxation, while the support of Angola's just cause was a real manifestation of concern for the healthy formation of international relations.

This fully applies to the Somalian-Ethiopian conflict. The aggression against Ethiopia was designed to liquidate the Ethiopian revolution, which hadn't been exported but had come as a direct consequence to the plight of the popular masses under the oppression of the former regime. The Ethiopian revolution has come out for a political settlement of the problem of Eritrea, and if its steps in this direction haven't met a positive response, the blame for that rests not with Addis Ababa but with outside forces, who sought to use the Eritrean problem in their selfish interests.

Both Angola and Ethiopia need peace more than anything else. They need favorable external conditions to concentrate efforts on solving their major domestic problems. To block outside pressure on these countries, the Soviet Union, Cuba and other socialist countries are coming out for true respect of the interests of nations striving for freedom and independence.

The South African regime is ignoring the legitimate interests of Namibia in violation of the UN resolutions, and so then Africa is becoming a trouble spot in the world. Responsible for such a state of affairs is not the Soviet Union or the other socialist countries, but those who exploit African resources and are afraid of losing them.

Now take events in and around Iran. Time and again Western politicians have been closing their eyes to the main thing--the desire of the Iranians to carry out democratic political reforms, to do away with corruption and to conduct a really independent foreign policy.

Situated thousands of miles from America, Iran is talked about in the United States as something that is in the sphere of direct American interests, the interests to be guarded from the Iranians themselves.

As the world is changing, and these changes are progressive, acute situations spring up quite often as a result. Hostile class interests clash in some countries and this can't help affecting world politics in a certain way. But the effect of these changes on the world political climate does not necessarily clash with the interests of easing tension. It is necessary to take into account first and foremost the interests of a nation going through revolutionary changes and prevent interference in its domestic affairs. It is also necessary to give up attempts to view the contemporary complex world in the old way, as divided into spheres of influence.

A free and independent nation, big or small, inevitably comes to a policy of peace, whereas oppression, diktat and violence inevitably create tension in international relations, with all the consequences involved.

ANDREW YOUNG CRITICIZES U.S. STAND TOWARD PLO

LD221632 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 22 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 22, TASS--Permanent Representative of the United States at the United Nations Andrew Young, in an interview to the newspaper INTERDEPENDENT, has criticized the stand of the United States administration which stubbornly refuses to recognize the rights of the Arab people of Palestine and the Palestine Liberation Organization which is known to be the only legitimate representative of that people.

The Palestine Liberation Organization, Andrew Young said, not only expresses the interests of the Arab people of Palestine, but also enjoys a great influence in the most different Arab countries, at the United Nations Organization. The United States does not like it--and therefore does not recognize it, he said. Such a stand was characterized by Andrew Young as the loss of contact with realities in the world.

Touching upon the causes of such a course pursued by Washington, Andrew Young said that the United States does not recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization probably because of Israel. In other words, the U.S. administration is inclined to yield to the pressure of Tel Aviv which stubbornly ignores the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine. Andrew Young also admitted that the Arab world resolutely turned down the Camp David deal, above all because that conspiracy, as he said, does not ensure representation and guarantees to the Arab people of Palestine which they need to be sure of their morrow and to attain the exercise of self-determination.

RADIO MOSCOW COMMENTS ON CARTER'S STATE OF UNION MESSAGE

ID241308 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 24 Jan 79 ID

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] President Carter has delivered, at a joint session of the U.S. Congress, a traditional State of the Union message.

In foreign policy, the President devoted much attention to USSR-U.S. relations, primarily to the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting strategic offensive arms. Cooperation with the Soviet Union, he said, serves the cause of peace because, in the nuclear age, peace throughout the world certainly presupposes peace between the great powers and this unfailingly means the control of nuclear weapons. The aim of the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting strategic arms, the President continued, is not to achieve unilateral advantages, but to insure the security of the two countries, to stop the expensive and dangerous arms race, to retain a firm balance between nuclear forces and to demonstrate to the entire world that we are fully resolved to promote the maintenance of peace.

The new Soviet-U.S. agreement on SALT-II which is being prepared, Carter said, is by no means being built on sentiment but on the interests of the United States and the Soviet Union. Both sides share tremendous common interest in averting the threat of a nuclear war. The President stated that almost all the issues at the Soviet-U.S. talks on SALT-II have already been resolved, but at the same time he claimed that the achievement of a dependable and reassuring agreement will depend on the position of the Soviet Union. He also said that he will not sign an agreement which does not strengthen the national security of the United States; he will not sign it unless U.S. deterrent forces remain extremely strong. This statement is evaluated here as a bow to the ultrarightwing groups and the military-industrial complex which have already unleashed an active campaign against ratification of the agreement.

It is clear from the President's statement that in its foreign policy the United States still intends to put its stake on military might. Asserting that the United States has no wish to be a world policeman, Carter said at the same time that the United States must continue to build a new firm foundation for a stable international community from a position of strength. U.S. military might, he stressed, is an important force in safeguarding security and stability throughout the world. Carter voiced his support for maintaining the strategic potential of the United States, and for further consolidating the military NATO bloc. The President urged that the draft federal budget for fiscal year 1980, which, as is well known, provides for astronomical military expenditures of \$138.2 billion--and which he has submitted to Congress, be approved.

U.S. Public Protests Budget

ID240232 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 23 Jan 79 ID

[Vladislav Kozyakov commentary]

[Text] The administration's budget proposals for the 1980 fiscal year figure prominently in President Carter's State of the Union message. Here's a comment from news analyst Vladislav Kozyakov:

Judging from reports coming from the United States, the budget proposals have met with strong resistance on the part of the public and many political figures. Many Americans simply cannot understand why the country should be (?failing in the) battle against unemployment and other social programs while making a considerable increase in military spending. According to ASSOCIATED PRESS reporting from Washington, the administration is suggesting that military spending should go up by \$10.8 billion. It's in accord with a promise to NATO to increase defense spending by 3 percent after inflation is considered. The question to be asked at this point is why is the administration insisting on honoring its commitment to NATO while ignoring its commitments to the American people?

Senator George McGovern noted that one reason for increased defense spending is Carter's pledge to NATO allies, but McGovern said Carter also made a pledge to blacks, farmers, the unemployed and the cities. No American president has a more sacred obligation to Brussels or Bonn than he does to Cleveland or Detroit, McGovern said in a speech to a meeting of the International Association of Machinists.

Presumably, this view is shared by many Americans. Apparently those in Washington who favor an increased arms race realize that the American public would be displeased with the budget proposals for the Pentagon, hence the official argument in support of the proposals that the Warsaw Treaty has allegedly increased its military capabilities. Moreover, on the day when the President sent his budget proposals to Congress, a CIA report was made public there accusing the Soviet Union of an increase in defense spending. The CIA report gives \$146 billion as the sum it claims the Soviet Union diverted to defense spending last year. The figure crops up out of the blue, and nobody will be able to understand why it is \$146 billion, no less, no more. Apparently the purpose of the authors of the report is to mislead the public. This is the reason why they give a figure several times higher than the \$17.2 billion, the amount spent by the Soviet Union on defense last year, which roughly equals \$25 billion.

It's not the first time that the CIA has resorted to falsification of this kind. But inventions do not become more credible if they are often repeated. Perhaps the most noteworthy aspect of the present debate is that the criticism of the administration's proposal for an increase in Pentagon spending at the expense of social programs is growing despite the continuing anti-Soviet campaign. Several congressional members made statements immediately after the President submitted his budget proposals. Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy said he found what he called wasteful increases for defense while the burden for holding down spending was placed on the cities and the poor, the sick and the unemployed. In the House of Representatives, Congressman Paul Simon, a member of the House Budget Committee, said a lesser (?fraction of) defense spending and greater attention to the domestic economy would seem to be in order. The budget proposals came in for sharp criticism from Thomas O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives. He immediately found fault with Carter's proposals to pare some job creation programs and reduce some social security benefits. I didn't become speaker of the house to dismantle programs I have fought for all my life, he told journalists.

It looks as though the view of these congressmen reflect the sentiment of the mass of the American people. By all indications a growing number of Americans regard down-to-earth internal problems as the real threat rather than some mythical threat from the socialist countries. Obviously, this is the reason why the administration's budget proposals are encountering growing public protests.

III. 24 Jan 79

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES

SENATOR CHURCH URGES ADOPTION OF SALT-II AGREEMENT

LD221942 Moscow TASS in English 1903 GMT 22 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Washington, January 22, TASS--Frank Church, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, pointed to the enormous importance for the destinies of mankind of the agreement to limit the strategic offensive weapons (SALT). Speaking on television, he said that the task of limiting the nuclear arms race is acquiring a special importance, becoming more important and topical than any other aims.

The United States and the Soviet Union possess colossal nuclear potentials whose might continues to increase, the senator said. If the arms race is not brought under control, the danger of a nuclear war will be immeasurably greater.

Frank Church came up with sharp criticism of the attempts undertaken by certain U.S. circles to link the conclusion of SALT-2 between the USSR and the USA to other issues which have nothing to do with the agreement. Such attempts, he said, may only make further progress in Soviet-U.S. efforts to limit the nuclear arms race more difficult to the detriment of the interests of the United States, the Soviet Union and all mankind.

GSA ADMINISTRATOR'S RESIGNATION 'TANTAMOUNT TO DISMISSAL'

LD231753 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0855 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

["Resignation Tantamount to Dismissal"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington--The White House announced on Monday the forthcoming resignation of J. Solomon as administrator of the General Services Administration [GSA].

It has become known that the department headed by Solomon has been the subject of investigations for 6 months in connection with mass embezzlement, fraud and violation of the laws. As a result, it has been learned that many GSA employees regularly defrauded the government of hundreds of millions of dollars annually, making out fictitious orders for nonexistent repair and construction work, rendering services to their friends at the public's expense, and forming lucrative contracts. According to federal investigators, 27 GSA department heads in Washington alone took bribes from companies as a sign of gratitude for contracts which brought substantial sums to the businessmen. Department heads in New York, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Denver, San Francisco and a number of other cities were not lagging behind.

The scandal has become so large that U.S. President James Carter, was obliged to pledge publicly to hold an investigation and punish the offenders.

Solomon began his struggle against corruption fairly energetically, arousing bewilderment and then anger in the Washington "corridors of power." In particular, he dismissed R. Griffin, his deputy, who was involved in machinations, despite the fact that Griffin was a close friend of Thomas O'Neill, the speaker of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress. The conflict which arose forced President Carter himself to interfere in the affair, appointing Griffin, following O'Neill's protests, to the staff of his special representative in international trade talks.

It is noted that Solomon's enthusiasm became his downfall, for which he will have to pay by losing his job.

Informed observers consider his resignation tantamount to dismissal, pointing out the widespread fears in the government that his investigation might go "too far" and "touch the interests of certain highly-placed figures."

U.S., PRC HAVE COMMON GOALS IN WORLD'S CRISIS AREAS

LD231622 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 23, TASS--Commenting on Zbigniew Brzezinski's statement that the USA and China have many interests in common, the LITERARY GAZETTE [LITERATURNAYA GAZETA] writes: "This coincidence of political aspirations is already leading up Washington and Beijing [Peking] to concerted actions against peace and the freedom of the peoples. There are countless examples of such cooperation. Beijing literally begs the United States not to withdraw from Southeast Asia and even asks it to increase its presence there. Beijing solidarizes with the Chilean fascist junta and is following with regard to Vietnam an aggressive policy similar to that once pursued by the USA vis-a-vis Cuba. It encourages Israel's expansion in the Middle East and openly supports As-Sadat's separate deal with Begin under the U.S. aegis. As was the case in Angola, Beijing acts more and more often hand in hand with the South African racists and together with the USA comes out against all national liberation movements, whether in Zimbabwe or in Iran.

The Beijing leaders are prepared to turn their own country into a "Far Eastern Iran"--into an alternative source of oil supply for the imperialist West. For its oil China hopes to get dollars with which to buy arms and thus give imperialism an opportunity to make double profits and of doubly robbing the people who will get nothing in this situation. Just as in Iran..."

WALLPOSTER ACCUSES DENG OF 'COMPROMISING WITH IMPERIALISM'

OW240118 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1000 GMT
23 Jan 79 OW

[Text] Foreign travelers in China have seen another dazipao [tatzupao] attacking Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-Ping], vice premier of the PRC State Council. This poster appeared in downtown Shanghai a few days ago.

The anonymous poster charged Deng Xiaoping with implementing a policy of compromising with imperialism and stated that Deng's best friends are U.S. and Japanese imperialists.

The poster also said that Deng Xiaoping has opened China's gate to imperialists and monopoly capitalism and that it is foolish to expect help from imperialists. It also stated that Deng Xiaoping has plunged China into imperialist slavery.

According to some observers, such dazipao [tatzupao] have been written on instructions from Hua Guofeng (Hua Kuo-Feng), chairman of the CCP Central Committee.

PRESS REPORTS GROMYKO, OREJA SPEECHES, COMMUNIQUE

19 Jan Luncheon Speeches

LD202140 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Text] On 19 January A.A. Gromyko gave a luncheon in honor of M. Oreja Aguirre, during which an exchange of speeches took place. Welcoming the guest, A.A. Gromyko said:

These Soviet-Spanish negotiations are not an ordinary phenomenon of European--and not only European--politics. The Soviet Union and Spain have begun a direct dialog after an interval of 40 years, an interval motivated by well-known reasons now relegated to the past.

For the first time in the history of Soviet-Spanish relations a Spanish foreign minister has arrived in our country on an official visit. Can the Soviet Union and Spain, in rediscovering each other, mark out suitable paths to strengthen understanding? What can the role and specific weight of our bilateral relations be within the course of international affairs? The reply to these questions depends on various factors, the first being the political will of the leadership of each of our countries, the desire of the Soviet and Spanish peoples to live in peace.

We know that at the time of carrying out positive changes in its own house, the Spanish people cannot but concern themselves with the foreign policy course of the country. The interviews and talks held by the minister in this capital have helped us to pinpoint and widen our understanding of the positions and intentions of Spain in the international arena.

For our part we are trying to give the Spanish people a correct idea of the foreign policy course of the Soviet Union. Our country, as before, sets out the historic task of halting the arms race and of undertaking practical steps toward disarmament. I am not going to list the concrete proposals made in this field by the USSR, its allies and friends, since the Spanish side knows of these initiatives in all certainty.

We value the fact that Spain supported our initiative at the United Nations on strengthening security guarantees which prevent the use of nuclear arms against states which possess no such arms and do not have them on their territory.

In the great variety of disarmament problems an exceptionally important trend continues to be the Soviet-American negotiations on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. At the end of last year considerable advances were achieved on the road-leading toward their successful conclusion. We hope that the efforts being made at the moment will lead to full agreement between the USSR and the United States on the few problems that remain to be solved.

We repeat what we have proclaimed on many occasions, that there is no type of weapon that the Soviet Union is not prepared to limit and ban on the basis of reciprocity and common agreement with other states.

You will probably agree, Mr. Minister that the steps of both sides aimed at improving relations between Spain and the USSR in the international arena are not starting from scratch. Before, we also talked a common language when we considered different questions in the United Nations or during the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

From our view our two countries start from the assumption that the Helsinki Final Act is a program which looks forward to the strengthening of security and development of cooperation in Europe and that this program should be carried out as a single indivisible whole. From this point of view it is important that the next meeting of representatives of participating states of the European conference to be held in Madrid in 1980 should be carried out in a constructive atmosphere and should favor the development of peace in Europe.

With this in mind we are ready to maintain dynamic contacts with Spain. Our two countries have serious interests in the Mediterranean. The Soviet Union comes out for eradicating the points of conflict and tension in the region next to its southern borders, for eliminating the causes which generate these conflicts. This refers primarily to the Middle East and Cyprus.

Nobody is unaware that there are forces in the world which are striving to increase international tension. These forces sabotage disarmament, provoke interstate conflicts, try to meddle in the affairs of other states and peoples. We believe that new beneficial perspectives for strengthening peace and developing relations of cooperation and neighborliness in Southeast Asia are being opened up as a result of the victory of the Kampuchean people. This people rose up to sweep away the harsh and bloody tyranny that had been imposed on it from the outside. This is a clear example of the fact that attempts to impose a political order on other peoples are inevitably doomed to failure. Only the Kampuchean people, and on one else, can resolve its affairs and determine its fate. And the Kampuchean people are using this facility.

Those who have inscribed the noble epithet of relaxation on the blazons of their foreign policy have to constantly and energetically fight in defending the cause of peace and international relaxation.

Less than 2 years have passed since establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. Life has fully confirmed the judgments made in this respect by Leonid Brezhnev who described the event as outstanding in European politics. In a very short time Soviet-Spanish ties have suffered a considerable positive development. This is confirmed by the present negotiations and the agreements which we have just signed and which embrace important aspects of cultural and scientific and technical collaboration.

We have studied in detail the statements of the Spanish side, including those stating the desire to encourage relations with the Soviet Union and to activate contacts between leaders of the two countries.

In the name of the Soviet leadership I can state that these desires are in accord with the aspirations of the USSR. We want to see Spain play a role in the international field worthy of its possibilities and contribution of the Spanish people to world civilization. If you ask what best corresponds to the interests of Spain as a state, concerning its foreign policy, we would say: a course of peace, a peaceful independent policy in international affairs, in short, a course that answers the desires of all peoples without exception.

In reply Marcelino Oreja Aguirre expressed his thanks for the welcome he received in the USSR that he described as the expression of the friendship which the Soviet people feels for the Spanish people. The Spanish people, said the minister, feels respect and admiration for the Soviet Union, which has enriched the past and present with demonstrations of heroism and grandeur of spirit. [paragraph continues]

It holds in esteem a people which managed to insure for itself a future of prosperity and progress. Marcelino Oreja Aguirre said: The foreign policy course of Spain pursues aims that fully correspond to the principles of the UN Charter and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and is directed at maintaining peace and security for, without a true stable system of security, peace will only be a dangerous truce. Only true relaxation and disarmament, to which we should direct all our efforts to achieve, can serve as a basis for the system of security, underlined the minister. He pointed out the great importance of relaxation and mutual trust between states, the broad possibilities for cooperation in the political sphere which exist in both countries. Spain and the Soviet Union, emphasized the minister, carried out great activity together within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, called at the initiative of the signatory countries of the Warsaw Pact.

We continue to be firmly resolved to defend and develop all the clauses of the Final Act aimed at furthering peace and mutual understanding between all the peoples of the European Continent.

[The following passage appeared in a Moscow Spanish to Spain broadcast at 2200 GMT on 19 January but was not included in the IZVESTIYA version of 20 January: "I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to express once more Spain's thanks to the Soviet Union for supporting Madrid's candidacy as the place for the holding of the [word indistinct] meeting of the countries which participated in the conference in 1980. The Final Act of the conference signed in Helsinki is a document of clauses which probably cannot be improved on. Its content exists as a whole, and it has to be taken in its general context and in all its aspects."]

Talking of the principal courses of the foreign policy of his country the minister said that in this policy great attention is paid to relations with Arab countries, underlining that the positions of Spain and the Soviet Union coincide considerably on the problem of settling the Middle East conflict.

Marcelino Oreja Aguirre expressed his satisfaction at the development of Spanish-Soviet relations. He recalled that practically 2 years have gone by since the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries which filled the void existing for approximately four decades. During these 2 years we have significantly advanced on the path of enriching our bilateral relations, simultaneously intensifying our cooperation on a multilateral basis. Nevertheless we still have to work hard if one bears in mind the fact that the prospects of development are very broad. After the agreements signed today there will be others, so that our relations may advance in all spheres.

Although the volume of our bilateral trade has increased sixfold since the opening of representations in Madrid and Moscow in 1972, these figures are still very modest in comparison with the present economic situation and the new spirit which governs our relations. The Spanish industrial exhibition recently held in Moscow is an important step in this direction. We must try to see that our peoples get to know each other better and overcome the isolation of recent decades. It is clear that our peoples know sufficiently well the classic culture of our countries. We also know the contemporary authors who have enriched the cultural patrimony of your country. [paragraph continues]

At this moment in Moscow at the house of friendship there is a collection of works of Goya on display and I trust that in the near future an exchange will be able to be effected between our main museums.

There is no doubt that the agreement on cultural cooperation, an agreement which we have just signed, will act for both sides as a channel for new initiatives.

Finally, Marcelino Oreja Aguirre spoke for a strengthening of cooperation between Spain and the USSR, for the continuation of contacts and regular consultations, in the interests of strengthening peace and security and the development of Spanish-Soviet bilateral relations.

The luncheon was attended by:

On the Soviet side--M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, V.A. Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR ministers and other officials;

On the Spanish side--the persons accompanying the minister, and also J.A. Samaranch, Spanish ambassador to the USSR.

The luncheon passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Communique on Visit

LD231301 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jan 79 p 4 LD

[Apparent text of "Joint Soviet-Spanish communique"]

[Text] Spanish Foreign Minister M. Oreja Aguirre paid an official visit to the USSR 17 through 20 January 1979 at the Soviet Government's invitation.

During his stay in the USSR the Spanish foreign minister was received by A.N. Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Talks held in a spirit of mutual understanding and in a friendly and cordial atmosphere took place between A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, and Spanish Foreign Minister M. Oreja Aguirre. A fruitful exchange of opinions took place on questions of Soviet-Spanish relations and certain international problems of mutual interest.

The sides reaffirmed the profound loyalty of the USSR and Spain to the aims and principles of the UN Charter, their desire to seek to insure that these are implemented and their firm determination to promote the cause of world peace and international security on the paths of detente and disarmament while observing all the principles of relations among states proclaimed in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Final Act.

The sides attach great importance to the process initiated by the all-European conference of consolidating security, cooperation and detente on the continent. Taking into account the fact that at the Belgrade meeting all participants reaffirmed their readiness to continue the detente process, they recognized the need for further resolute efforts for the dynamic and complete implementation of all provisions of the Final Act adopted in Helsinki. [paragraph continues]

In this connection they advocated that the meeting of representatives of the participating states to be held in Madrid in 1980 contribute to progress on European security through military detente and disarmament and to cooperation in the spheres of the economy, science, technology and the environment and in humanitarian and other spheres. The sides expressed their desire to contribute to the meeting's success. And here M. Oreja Aguirre declared that Spain, which is to host the meeting in 1980 will make every effort to make appropriate preparations for it.

The sides considered with due attention the proposals that the questions of cooperation in the spheres of environmental protection, transport and energy be discussed within an all-European framework according to the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act.

The ministers stressed the need for the movement toward both military and political detente to gain strength and to be extended to all regions of the world with the participation of all states, irrespective of their political, economic and social systems and also irrespective of whether or not they participate in military-political organizations.

The sides noted the importance of efforts toward enhancing the effectiveness of the commitment by all states regarding the renunciation of the use of force or the threat of force in any shape or form, including the prohibition of nuclear weapons. They stressed the necessity of lowering the level of military confrontation in the world by reducing armaments and switching to specific measures for disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, without detriment to the security of any state.

The sides reaffirmed their determination to continue their efforts toward general and complete disarmament under effective international control. They proclaimed their support for the final document elaborated by the UN General Assembly 10th special session on disarmament and expressed the conviction that, given appropriate preparation, the speediest convening of a world disarmament conference with universal participation would be an important step in developing and implementing the principles contained in that document. They emphasized the need to end production and reduce stockpiles of nuclear weapons until they are totally eliminated and also to reduce conventional types of armaments. They advocated speediest completion of the international talks being held on a general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests, on prohibiting and eliminating chemical weapons and also on banning creation of new types and systems of mass destruction weapons.

The USSR and Spain regard as important the conclusion of an international convention on strengthening guarantees of nonnuclear states' security. They oppose the proliferation of nuclear weapons under conditions where all states have access [v usloviyakh dostupa vseh gosudarstv] without discrimination to the use of nuclear energy and nuclear technology for peaceful purposes under effective international control in accordance with the international atomic energy authority norms. [sentence as published] They also advocate creation of peace zones and nuclear-free zones in various regions of the world.

The conviction was expressed that the speediest successful completion of the talks between the Soviet Union and the United States on limiting strategic offensive armaments would be of great importance for the prospects of disarmament and the strengthening of world peace.

Both sides stressed their interest in seeing the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe result in an accord lowering the level of military confrontation in Europe on the basis of the principle of non detriment to the sides' security.

The sides acknowledged that an urgent need exists to establish just and lasting peace in the Near East. The achievement of an all-embracing settlement based on the UN resolutions must include a withdrawal by Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, implementation of the Palestinian people's national rights, including the right to self-determination, and the right of all countries in that region to live in peace and security.

The ministers discussed certain issues relating to the situation in the Mediterranean and agreed on the need to make constructive efforts with a view to strengthening peace, security and cooperation in that region.

Exchanging opinions on the development of African events, the sides stressed the need for total respect of the principles of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, the inviolability of borders and noninterference in internal affairs in accordance with the UN Charter and the OAU decisions. They advocated a just, peaceful and lasting settlement of the Western Sahara problem in accordance with UN and OAU principles and decisions by implementing the Western Saharan people's right to self-determination. Both sides condemned with the utmost resolution apartheid and racial discrimination and reaffirmed their support for the legitimate struggle by southern Africa's peoples for liberation from foreign domination and colonialism.

The ministers advocated the continuation of efforts aimed at establishing just international economic relations taking into account the developing countries' right to a part in world economic progress--something which could be promoted by the broad development of international economic cooperation on the basis of justice, equality and mutual advantage.

Both countries' desire was expressed to develop mutually advantageous cooperation based on the principle of peaceful coexistence and in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act, which asserts the independence and sovereign equality of states, their territorial integrity, noninterference in internal affairs, the nonuse or threat of force and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The sides noted with satisfaction that relations between them during the last 2 years have been marked by positive development in all spheres. They noted the constant and balanced growth in trade turnover between the two countries, as well as its increasing diversity. At the same time it was noted that the two countries' real economic potentials and their total volume of foreign trade make it possible to further increase Soviet-Spanish trade in the coming period. The desire to adopt appropriate measures for this purpose was stressed.

The usefulness of the practice of periodic contacts and consultations between the Soviet and Spanish foreign ministries on both bilateral questions and international questions of mutual interest was acknowledged. Both sides confirmed the desire to further develop Soviet-Spanish relations in all spheres in a spirit of mutual trust, cooperation and friendship.

USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko and Spanish Foreign Minister M. Oreja Aguirre signed an agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation and an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation.

During the visit an agreement was signed on scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR State Committee on Science and Technology and the Spanish Institute of National Industry. It was also decided to sign in the near future an agreement between the USSR State Television and Radio and Spanish radio and television, the elaboration which has been completed.

The sides stressed that the signing of the agreements reflects their mutual desire to expand cooperation and develop ties in the sphere of culture, education, science and technology. They confirmed their interest in adding to the legal basis of bilateral relations with a view to favorably developing them by means of elaborating agreements on marine transport, economic and industrial cooperation, and eliminating mutual taxation, and also a consular convention.

The sides expressed satisfaction at the positive results of the visit, which will promote further development of friendly relations between the USSR and Spain for the sake of their peoples and in the interests of detente and strengthening peace.

Spanish Foreign Minister M. Oreja Aguirre conveyed an invitation to USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko to make an official visit to Spain. This invitation was accepted with satisfaction. The date of the visit will be agreed through diplomatic channels.

TASS REPORTS OPENING OF TALKS BETWEEN GROMYKO, FORLANI

LD231600 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Rome, January 23, TASS--Negotiations between the member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Foreign Ministry Andrey Gromyko and Italy's Minister of Foreign Affairs Arnaldo Forlani began here today. The negotiations cover issues related to a further development of Soviet-Italian relations as well as certain topical questions of the international situation.

The negotiations are held in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere.

Meets Pertini, Forlani

For Italian and Soviet reportage on the official visit of Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko to Italy, see the Italy and the Vatican section of the 24 January and subsequent issues of the Western Europe DAILY REPORT.

KEDRIN RAPS PCI STAND ON FLORENCE 'DISSIDENT' SYMPOSIUM

LD231633 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jan 79 p 9 LD

[L. Kedrin article: "Challenge to Florence's Good Name"]

[Text] There are few buildings in the world as famous and renowned as the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence. This palace has stood on the Piazza Della Signoria for almost 7 centuries. The city's urban council has occupied the Palazzo Vecchio for over a century.

For a long time the Catholic La Pira, chairman of the World Federation of Twinned Cities, who devoted much effort to the struggle for peace, was mayor of Florence. In recent years the ancient city has been controlled by leftwing forces. Large-scale demonstrations of Italian-Soviet friendship have frequently taken place in the capital of Tuscany.

"Florence is a city with ancient traditions of peace, freedom and cooperation among the peoples...." These lofty words open the text of the invitation to Florence recently received by the Rome correspondents of USSR and other socialist countries newspapers and press agencies. However--and here lies a bitter paradox--the invitation in question announces an event to be held in the Palazzo Vecchio, which in its spirit and essence directly contradicts the aspirations toward expansion of cooperation among peoples. From 19 through 21 January an "international symposium" on the subject of "dissidence and democracy in the East European countries" is planned there.

The initiative for holding this event belongs to the Socialist Party group on the urban council. Actually there was no need to say this for the adherence of the leadership of the Italian Socialist Party [PSI] and in particular of Bettino Craxi, its political secretary, to any anti-Soviet and anticommunist undertaking in Italy has become the rule in recent years. In this respect the PSI leaders outdo many rightwing groupings. Craxi, who, to all appearances, has considerable material potential, would like to place all opponents of the system existing in the socialist countries who have fled or been expelled from their homelands under his wing and tutelage. Let us note that the "Craxi line" is meeting with increasingly sharp and massive condemnation among the PSI ranks. But the assemblies in Florence, which has been put off several times, will obviously nonetheless take place.

It is truly surprising that the representatives of the Italian Communist Party [PCI] on Florence's urban council have not adopted a critical stance with respect to the socialists' "initiative". After all, the 1977 Venice Bienn, the "hearings" held a year ago in Rome and the Turin "lectures" devoted to "dissidence" were ultimately invariably transformed into a stage and source of political speculations not least of which were aimed against the PCI itself and its own ideological foundations.

The Italian press has frequently advanced the following thesis: Stage appearances are given to "dissidents" from socialist countries in the name of Italian "pluralism". Well, no one can deny the existence in Italy of economic diversity--from billionaires to poor farm laborers--and of political diversity--from extreme leftwing radicals to the two neofascist parties which officially exist. But why are renegades hostile to the socialist countries called on to lend a hand to bear witness to the "maturity" of Italian democracy? It is not clear. Perhaps they are necessary for something else? We will not turn to history again, even to its most instructive pages. Of course they are needed for something else.

In Milan (10 days before the date set for the Florence "symposium") the prelude was played. The not unknown splittist "Manifesto" group also assembled "dissidents" to discuss problems of the "postrevolutionary society." The guests advanced as their main theoretical contribution to the discussion, the demand for the anathematization of Marxism. But what about "pluralism?" The participants in the meeting who regarded themselves as members of the leftwing intelligentsia asked in confusion.

To judge from the advance publicity the presence of "dissidents" at the Florence "symposium" will be even more massive and opportunities for organizers to learn from their impressions will be even broader. The PSI newspaper AVANTI has published the program in which the overall purpose of the assemblage is divided into specific themes. "The strategy of dissidence," "dissidence in the sphere of economic science," "dissidence and detente" and so forth. Superficially it looks respectable, almost serious, scientific as it were--not unlike the Middle Ages when authors of dissertations would ascertain scientifically how many devils could be placed on the point of a needle.

Attempts to present the renegade dissidents as thinkers and theorists will obviously remain for a long time. In this sense the renowned Ostap Bender [reference to a character in a novel by Ilf and Petrov has not lost his followers. Only now everything is put on a broader, almost state footing. The "symposiums," "lectures" and "hearings" which have become increasingly frequent in Italy in recent years promote vulgar anti-Sovietism and anticommunism to the rank of principle and transform the ideological struggle into psychological warfare, into an instrument of interference in other people's affairs. This is borne out by the expatiations of former Venice Biennale President Ripa di Meana in the 10 January issue of AVANTI: "The more the dissidents are listened to in the West, the more influence they enjoy here."

It would be curious to know what Gabbuggiani, the mayor of Florence, thought on reading these lines. Will he insist that the January "symposium" is compatible with the tasks of international detente and the development of peaceful cooperation between the USSR and Italy?

Life sometimes confronts with the need to choose. Ambiguity at such moments is inappropriate.

U.S. PLANS TO AIRLIFT MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO EUROPE

LD201130 Moscow TASS in English 1019 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

["Sinister Plan"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, January 20, TASS--The United States is building up its force in Western Europe. The Pentagon has started implementing a far-reaching programme for lifting reserve military equipment to the FRG to be stored at U.S. bases. The initial stage of the programme is estimated to be worth four billion dollars. It is planned to lift such a number of tanks, personnel armoured carriers, artillery pieces and other armaments that would be enough for three full divisions of the U.S. Army.

According to the design of American strategists, the accumulation of arms in the "European theatre" will give the United States the possibility in "case of a surprise intensive war" to airlift their military personnel speedily without wasting time of the supply of heavy equipment.

As the Pentagon said, a considerable part of the increased appropriations for military purposes, which are to reach, according to the estimates of the press, roughly 137 billion dollars in the fiscal year of 1980, will be spent on the programme of lifting military equipment to Western Europe.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON SITUATION IN IRAN

Removal of U.S. 'Espionage Equipment'

LD221125 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian p 5 20 Jan 79 LD

["Where Is the USA Removing Its Espionage Equipment?"]

[Text] According to the New York TIMES and other American news media, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency has started removing from Iran large quantities of secret electronic equipment designed for spying on the Soviet Union. One may ask in this connection: Where is it being removed? Maybe to the United States? By no means. According to the same reports, it is being transferred to Turkey. Answering correspondents' questions on this matter, official U.S. State Department and CIA spokesmen did not refute these reports.

At the same time, Turkish officials only declared that no new American military "installations" would be created in Turkey's territory. However, with such evasive statements, the possibility remains that the espionage equipment may be placed in American bases known to be located in Turkey.

But does it make any difference that activity hostile to a country neighboring Turkey will be carried out from new or old American bases?

Maintain 'Noncommunist' Forces

LD232234 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Dear listeners, world news agencies, while carrying reports on the continuation of demonstrations and crowded meetings throughout Iran, pay particular attention to the fact that in the course of these demonstrations by the Iranian people the protest against U.S. interference in Iran's internal affairs is being expressed with ever greater clarity. "Yankees, get out of Iran!", "An end should be put to U.S. interference!"--these slogans have been written on the walls of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in 1-meter high letters. Together with these slogans, a massive demonstration took place opposite the U.S. Embassy. Even the U.S. UPI agency could not remain silent on the hunger strike by 4,000 officers of the Iranian Air Force, who called for the expulsion of all U.S. military advisers. Nevertheless, Washington's official policy remains inclined to intensify U.S. interference in Iran's internal affairs.

What do the official spokesmen of the U.S. administration say? They speak at length of strategic U.S. positions in Iran and throughout the Persian Gulf region, the so-called defense of Western oil interests and also the question of on whom the United States can depend to achieve its goals. But when it comes to what the Iranian nation itself wants and for what aims it is struggling they prefer to remain silent. On this point, the latest remarks by the U.S. State Department spokesman are extremely noteworthy. From his remarks one may conclude that the fundamental aim of the U.S. administration has absolutely nothing to do with allowing the Iranian nation to determine its own destiny, rather it wants to maintain the noncommunist forces' control over and supervision of Iran.

It is quite obvious that what the United States means by noncommunist forces is, in the first place, the United States itself.

As for the ancient land of Iran and those Iranians who are thirsting for the achievement of genuine independence and freedom, not a single word is said. The U.S. State Department's spokesman steers his discussion in such a manner as to make it appear that since the shah's departure the will of the 35-million-strong Iranian nation no longer exists. The U.S. State Department's spokesman candidly said: The vacuum left behind by the shah should be filled by other countries. This is the same rotten, moribund imperialist theory of a so-called vacuum. Everyone is well aware of the meaning of this theory. That is, whenever imperialism is forced to flee from a place a vacuum, as it were, is created there. The world of imperialism exploited this theory for dozens of years, dominated other nations and countries competed with one another for the enslavement of a great many nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America. But is this the 19th century, that is, the era of the supremacy of the colonialist empires? Has not the national liberation movement buried these empires and established on their ruins dozens of independent and free countries? All these are the realities of the world today. Should they fail to recognize these realities this is tantamount to trampling underfoot the people's right to freely determine their destiny and their right to build their lives as they see fit.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, the White House adviser, according to the magazine UNITED STATES NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, has said: U.S. interests in Iran are of paramount importance to the United States. From strategic, economic and political standpoints Iran is an important cog in the collective economic and political mechanism of the Western world. Of course, Brzezinski does not ask what poverty, horrible indigence and misfortune this cog costs Iran and whether the Iranian nation still wants to be a cog in the foreigner mechanism, manipulated by others.

With its self-sacrificing battle toward genuine independence and freedom the Iranian nation is giving a convincing and clear answer to all these questions.

SAVAK Organizing Thugs

LD232051 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[From "The World Today" program]

[Text] Dear listeners, in order to cool down the tumultuous revolutionary movement which has swept the whole of Iran and to prevent the people's massive participation in a democratic movement, monarchists have been using more effective terrorist methods with thugs and hooligans. Gangs of looters hastily organized by the political secret police, SAVAK, are active in many parts of the country, beating up demonstrators, destroying homes, automobiles and stores and setting them on fire and openly engaging in looting. A wave of looting and (arson) has swept the towns of Meshgin Shahr, Quchan, Hashtpar and Harisin.

According to press reports, at least 50 people were killed in Meshgin Shahr. Bloody clashes in Reza'iyeh have also occurred, with 8 people killed and 25 injured. Tehran Radio, in a report on this, has described Reza'iyeh as a war-ravaged city. Secret police agents in the country's rural areas are busy organizing groups from among wealthy farmers and all kinds of thugs and hooligans who treat the people with cruelty in an unbridled manner and [words indistinct] engaged in highway robbery. Such criminal activities reported from the towns of Ilam, Kermanshahan, Khorramabad and Khalafabad have been described.

Militant rightists are steering the most ignorant of the peasantry toward provocative activities. The country's national democratic forces have begun to organizing matters relating to their defense. According to a report in the newspaper AYANDEGAN, volunteer defense units are now being formed.

Opposition leaders note that the people should be alert and should not succumb to sedition. Tehran newspapers have reported that thousands of people will gather in the capital for a ceremony welcoming Ayatollah Khomeyni who is expected to return to Iran next Friday. In an interview, the text of which has been published in KEYHAN, Ayatollah Khomeyni said that the country needs 20 years to eradicate the moral vestiges of the shah's regime. Ayatollah Khomeyni said that the oil industry, agriculture and our education and training system have declined. The country must be rebuilt.

The newspaper L'AUREOLE, in a commentary on the Iranian situation, said that everything is ready for the test of strength that will begin following Ayatollah Khomeyni's arrival in Tehran. The newspaper regards clashes between the army and the opposition as inevitable if Khomeyni forms a government in opposition to Bakhtiar. According to the newspaper L'HUMANITE, a spokesman for Ayatollah Khomeyni in an interview with a representative of French television said that America's plans for Iran are a cause for concern, because Washington is apparently engaged in plotting. The Washington POST has said that Tehran newspapers have published reports of fresh disturbances within the military, despite claims by representatives of the armed forces that there are allegedly no signs of any split in the army. Daily increasing numbers of army officers and NCO's are going over to the people who have risen against the regime of the monarchy. [passage indistinct]

Khomeyni's Return

LD2J1827 Moscow in Turkish to Cyprus 1530 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Events in Iran"]

[Text] According to news agencies, the people of Tehran are preparing to welcome Khomeyni, one of the prominent figures of the national and religious movement. Khomeyni, who has been living abroad in exile, intends to return to his native land on 26 January.

It is reported that Khomeyni and his supporters will bring with them a program for overcoming the economic and political crisis and a plan for [word indistinct] of the next government. The religious opposition is putting the finishing touches to the establishment of an Islamic Revolutionary Council. Khomeyni has made an appeal for the establishment of such a council.

Antishah and anti-American demonstrations throughout Iran have recently proved that the people's masses have been [word indistinct] their demands for the proclamation of an Iranian republic and the abolition of the monarchy.

Commenting on the resignation of Tehrani, president of the Regency Council appointed by the shah, observers point out that this is what he reported. It is assumed that this indicates that Tehrani in fact recognizes Khomeyni and not Prime Minister Bakhtiar as the representative of the existing sovereignty.

It is reported that the chairmen of both the chambers of the Iranian Parliament [words indistinct] at the meeting with Khomeyni. A kind of dual administration appears to exist in Iran: The Bakhtiar government, appointed by the shah but lacking popular support, can only claim the right to administer the country; and the broad masses of the people, united around the leaders of the opposition movement, are determining the development of events. The army command, fearing the widespread use of force to suppress the popular demonstrations, is following a wait-and-see policy for the time being.

The French newspaper L'HUMANITE says that Washington has embarked on a course of pressure and threats to reconcile the opposition with the Bakhtiar government, adding that Washington is intervening in Iran's internal affairs on a broader front by directly threatening the opposition with a military coup d'etat. According to press reports, the United States is trying to split the ranks of the opposition and is (?making separate) approaches to opposition leaders and their circles. Thus, for instance, former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark called on Khomeyni and had a lengthy meeting with him. It is worth noting that, according to a New York TIMES report, Ramsey Clark's visit was organized by the U.S. Embassy in Paris.

Tudeh Approves Revolutionary Council

LD231404 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The Iranian Tudeh Party has issued a statement endorsing the plan for the establishment of an Islamic Revolutionary Council. The party believes that the council ought to form a provisional national government, completely eradicate the monarchy, declare a republic, hold free general elections to elect a constituent assembly and draft a new constitution. The statement says that only with the solidarity of all anti-imperialist forces, discretion and the participation of all the people can the imperialists' cunning plans be frustrated and the danger of a coup d'etat averted.

Political Polarization Continues

LD231440 Moscow World Service in English 0900 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Polarization of political forces continues in Iran. The people are rallying round the opposition which insists that Iran should be proclaimed a republic whereas the army leadership supports the government appointed by the shah. The chief of General Staff, Qarabaghi, has said the armed forces give full backing to the government of Dr Bakhtiar. It is believed that he made the statement not without American influence. Many newspapers across the world say that the United States unscrupulously interferes in the internal affairs of Iran in a bid to make the opposition accept an agreement or compromise with the government which actually has no real power. In a number of cities people have set up local self-government. In response to a call from the opposition, supply of food to the population has been insured although the strikes continue.

Opposition Unity Required

LD231632 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] According to observers, the future direction of events in Iran depends in practice on whether the opposition will be able to preserve its unity. Massive demonstrations that have recently engulfed all of Iran show with complete clarity that the Iranian people widely support the opposition demands regarding the declaration of a republic and the abolition of the monarchy.

Proshah Demonstrations

LD232224 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] In Iran supporters of the monarchy have resorted to violence in several cities 2 days before the return to the country of the religious opposition leader Ayatollah Khomeyni. Thousands of people are said to be converging on Tehran to welcome him on his arrival on Friday.

Other reports say a group of servicemen have staged a demonstration in front of the shah's palace. They wore gas masks and were armed with carbines with fixed bayonets, which indicated their determination to disperse any processions. Lawless gangs led by agents of the SAVAK secret police have been operating in the cities of Reza'yeh, Ahvaz and Dezful. Rumors are still circulating in the country about a possible military coup after the return of Khomeyni. He himself has told reporters that a government of the opposition will be set up and that there will be a referendum on proclaiming the country a republic. A new constitution will be prepared to replace the existing one that was produced under the monarchy.

Tehran Airport Closed

LD241018 Moscow TASS in English 0911 GMT 24 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Paris, January 24, TASS--According to reports by foreign news agencies, the Iranian authorities closed down the Tehran airport today supposedly till Sunday. Army units are heavily guarding it. Tanks are positioned in the airport zone.

Observers are linking these measures with the planned return of Ayatollah Khomeyni, the leader of the Iranian opposition, to the country this week. At present, the politico-religious leader is in France where he recently stated his intention to return to Iran.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET-JORDANIAN AGREEMENT NOTED

LD231640 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 22 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] Vladimir Morovinov, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, comments on the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Jordanian agreement on economic and technical cooperation.

[Morovinov--begin recording in Russian fading into Arabic translation] Ten years ago, on 21 January 1969, the first Soviet-Jordanian agreement on economic and technical cooperation was signed. Today, we can say with every confidence that this event has become an important stage in the history of Soviet-Jordanian relations. During the past 10 years, relations between our two countries have turned into truly equal cooperation for mutual benefit. This cooperation continues to expand and now covers important branches of Jordan's economy, such as the power industry, the production of phosphate and the training of national technical cadres.

The Soviet Union and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan have friendly relations based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. The leaders of our two countries reviewed the results of Soviet-Jordanian relations, including economic relations, during the visit of King Husayn ibn Talal, the sovereign of Jordan, to our country in June 1976. The Soviet-Jordanian documents adopted at that time pointed out that since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1963, the Soviet Union and Jordan have done a great deal so that cooperation between them would become a routine phenomenon. In the Soviet-Jordanian joint statement, the Soviet and Jordanian leaders called for the continuation of the development of economic, trade, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation in the interest of the two peoples.

IRAN EVENTS PROMPTING U.S. TO 'RUSH' EGYPT-ISRAELI DEAL

ID232140 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Alfred Atherton, roving U.S. ambassador in the Middle East, has again postponed his visit to Egypt to continue talks with the Israeli leaders. Political observers regard this as proof of Washington's desire to bring about, at any cost, the signing of the separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. What is prompting the United States to rush matters is the development of events in Iran where the demand is growing for an end to American control in that country. The United States wants to make up for the positions it is losing in Iran by strengthening its influence in other countries such as Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Referring to this, the New York TIMES unambiguously said that if those countries united under American influence, they could then withstand any trials. The paper then immediately raised the fear that if Egypt and Israel could not now accomplish their deal when their political line made it possible for them to do so, the consequences would be **grim for all**.

If we translate this into simple language, it means that to strengthen American influence in the Middle East, it should be proposed to Saudi Arabia--let alone the As-Sadat regime--to agree as soon as possible to the American-Israeli terms for peace in the Middle East based on the Camp David accords. It appears that the events in Iran dealt such a shock to the American politicians that they had wishfully forgotten that an Arab summit was held last November in Baghdad which categorically rejected the Camp David accords, and Saudi Arabia was one of the signatories of its resolutions.

CAIRO PAPER'S ANTI-SOVIET EDITORIAL ATTACKED

ID222302 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 22 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Cairo paper AL-AKHBAR has published another intrigue against the Soviet Union. After admitting that Egypt is now suffering great economic difficulties, it immediately made an exciting discovery; it came to the conclusion that these difficulties were caused by the Soviet Union. But how?

In its editorial, the Cairo paper alleged that the Soviet Union built unproductive factories in Egypt. What does this mean? Does it mean that the factories built in Egypt with Soviet assistance are at a standstill? The Cairo paper does not say so. There is no harm in reminding the paper, for instance, of what it has published in the past about the profits which the factories of Hulwan, the Naja' Hammadi aluminum complex, the Aswan hydropower complex and many other factories have yielded. In the past, the Egyptian paper AL-AKHBAR enthusiastically announced that thanks to the Naja' Hammadi complex Egypt was now exporting aluminum. In this connection, we would like to ask the authors of AL-AKHBAR article: Who is asking Egypt for huge profits? Is it Western monopolies or the Soviet economic organizations? In helping Egypt build modern factories, the Soviet Union does not share its profits. But Western monopolies do not build such factories at all. They only invest their capital in unproductive economic sectors and endeavor to take the income from them out of Egypt as soon as possible.

Egypt does not have to repay its debts to the Soviet Union for building factories until after their commissioning; it can use the profits the Egyptian state is making from these factories. As to the Western rich, they do not ask just for the repayment of the loans themselves, but also for very high interest on these loans within a few years. We recall that during the years of the open-door policy the loans that Egypt secured from the West totaled more than \$12 billion in hard currency.

SOVIET LEADERS MEET AKEL DELEGATION 22 JAN

LD232134 Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

["Meeting at the CPSU Central Committee"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 23, TASS--On Monday, at the CPSU Central Committee, a meeting took place between the member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Suslov, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yakov Ryabov, and the delegation of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL) including AKEL's General Secretary E. Papaioannou and Deputy General Secretary A. Fantis.

The members of the AKEL delegation informed the Soviet side that AKEL has been consistently fighting to consolidate the patriotic, democratic and anti-imperialist forces within the united front capable of suppressing plots of internal and external reaction and to achieve a peaceful, just, democratic, realistic and generally acceptable settlement of the Cyprus problem. The basis for such a settlement, in AKEL's opinion, may be found in the pertinent U.N. resolution and the agreement between Makarios and Denktas on the four guidelines for a settlement in Cyprus. The AKEL delegation expressed to the CPSU, the USSR Government and the Soviet people its warm gratitude for the constant support given to the Cypriots in their struggle for a free and democratic development of the Republic of Cyprus.

The CPSU representatives confirmed that the Soviet Union resolutely supports the selfless struggle of AKEL and the patriotic forces of the country against the interference in the internal affairs of Cyprus by imperialism which utilizing the subversive activities of local reaction is obstructing a viable settlement of the Cyprus problem which would meet the interests of the entire Cypriot people--the Greeks and the Turks.

The meeting participants expressed confidence that the internal aspects of the Cyprus problem may be tackled at intercommunal negotiations provided for by pertinent U.N. resolutions and that an early convening of a representative international conference on Cyprus within the framework of the United Nations could become an important factor in achieving a just settlement of the Cyprus problem and strengthening peace in the Eastern Mediterranean.

The representatives of the CPSU and AKEL are firmly convinced that the interests of the peoples of the countries of the Mediterranean area and those of all mankind will be served by a further consolidation of peace and deepening of detente as well as by cessation of the arms race and implementation of concrete disarmament measures.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and complete mutual understanding.

Kuznetsov Presents Award

LD231402 Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 23, TASS--The Order of the October Revolution has been presented in the Kremlin today to Ezekias Papaioannou, general secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL).

Presenting the award, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, First Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasily Kuznetsov said: I have the honorary and pleasant duty of presenting to you the Order of the October Revolution on behalf of the Central Committee of our Communist Party, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and personally General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Comrade Leonid Brezhnev.

Ezekias Papaioannou has been conferred this award, which is so dear and high to every communist, for his revolutionary activity on half a century and in connection with his 70th birthday. Soviet people know well Ezekias Papaioannou--a prominent figure of the international and Cyprus working class movement, as a courageous and vigorous fighter against imperialism, reaction and fascism, for the democratic development and social progress of Cyprus. We also know him as a tireless fighter for the development and strengthening of ties between the CPSU and AKEL, as a consistent champion of the all round strengthening of friendship between the peoples of Cyprus and the Soviet Union. During the period of grim trials, which fell to the lot of the Cyprus people, Papaioannou waged a selfless struggle in a difficult and tense situation for putting an end to foreign interference, for curbing home reaction, for consolidating all of the country's democratic forces into a united front for a peaceful and just settlement of the Cyprus issue on the basis of the decisions of the United Nations Organisation.

Ezekias Papaioannou expressed profound gratitude for the high award. Receiving the order, I would like to stress that this high award belongs to my party--AKEL, the working class, the whole working people of Cyprus, he said. E. Papaioannou assured that he will devote all of his energies to the struggle for the freedom of the Cyprus people, for the ideals of communism, for peace, progress and socialism.

The ceremony of presentation of the order was attended by alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, Secretary of the CPSU CC Boris Ponomarev, Secretary of the CPSU CC Yakov Ryabov, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU CC Vadim Zagladin, USSR Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus Sergey Astavin as well as Deputy General Secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL) Andreas Fantis. They warmly and cordially congratulated Ezekias Papaioannou.

EGYPTIAN, PRC SLANDERS AGAINST ETHIOPIA SCORED

LD232256 Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[(Vladlen Kisanov) commentary]

[Text] In Ethiopia the working people have been actively joining the national campaign to restore the war-ravaged economy and advance the national economy as a whole. The more successful the Ethiopian people are advancing along the road of progressive reforms and strengthening the country's sovereignty, the fiercer are its enemies' attempts to disrupt Ethiopia's revolutionary development. Here is a comment by our observer (Vladlen Kisanov):

Beijing [Peking] and Cairo do not play second fiddle in this improper campaign. Being led by the Chinese Embassy in Egypt, the Egyptian press has launched into circulation anti-Soviet and anti-Cuban fabrications concocted by the embassy. This shows the hypocrisy of Egyptian officials; while assuring the Ethiopian leaders of their intention to maintain normal relations with Ethiopia they are actively helping the anti-Ethiopian forces. Recently, for instance, the Egyptian side openly pledged help to Somalia to defend it from aggression. The statement is clearly provocative, for not a single Somalia's neighbor is going to attack it. [sentence as heard] The Egyptian defense minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, unequivocally declared in the National Assembly that Egypt reaffirms its support for Eritrea's separatists.

The Egyptian authorities do not refute the fact that they have given refuge to a group of Ethiopian emigrants and are encouraging their activities. Together with the Chinese Embassy in Cairo the group is carrying out a campaign of slander against Ethiopia. The Egyptian press has been regularly (?courting) Ethiopian renegades as slandering the Soviet Union and Ethiopia. As for Beijing, it is openly supporting the idea of Eritrea's separation from Ethiopia. It has been supplying arms to the separatists in that Ethiopian province and has been maintaining contacts with a group of Ethiopian traitors who found refuge in Egypt. The Maoists, not without the local authorities permission, are supplying them with propaganda literature which, as we said, the Egyptian press uses without scruples. The Maoists have resorted to this campaign of slander against Ethiopia and the Soviet Union to discredit Soviet-Ethiopian relations, mobilize the home and foreign enemies of the Ethiopian revolution to undermine the unity and territorial integrity of the country, and liquidate the gains of the Ethiopian people. Chinese diplomacy is deliberately provoking instability in the Horn of Africa. The rapprochement that has taken shape between Egypt and China after the recent visit to Egypt by a Chinese delegation led by the vice chairman of the Chinese People's Council, Ulanhu [Ulanfu] is in full accord with the far-reaching plans of the most reactionary and bellicose circles in the West.

FIRST TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN USSR, LIBERIA SIGNED

LD232258 Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The first-ever trade agreement has been signed in Monrovia between the USSR and Liberia. President William Tolbert declared that the Liberian Government attaches great importance to the event.

III. 24 Jan 79

U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
S O U T H E A S T A S I A

K 1

INDONESIA 'REJECTS' U.S. PROPOSAL OF RELATIONS WITH PRC

OW231446 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 22 Jan 79 OW

[Text] The Indonesian Government has rejected the indirect U.S. proposal that Jakarta restore diplomatic relations with Peking. This statement was issued by Murtopo, Indonesian minister of information. Station observer Petrov writes:

Diplomatic relations between Indonesia and China were severed in 1965. At that time, Peking's high-level leadership crudely interfered in Indonesia's internal affairs. The Jakarta authorities have been keeping a watchful eye on Peking's activities since then.

The Indonesian authorities are completely justified in worrying about their national security. Asian newspapers have reported that, while verbally expressing their desire to strengthen friendship with Indonesia, the Peking authorities are actually pursuing a policy hostile to Indonesia. For instance, China has illegally sent to Indonesia a large number of Overseas Chinese who carry out special tasks for Peking. In addition, there are other instances of Peking's interfering in Indonesia's internal affairs. Therefore, Indonesian Information Minister Murtopo is completely justified in saying that, under present circumstances, Indonesia cannot normalize relations with China.

Peking continues to interfere in Indonesia's internal affairs. The Chinese authorities have been supporting antigovernment forces in Indonesia and seeking special rights for the small number of Chinese people in Indonesia. Internal political problems compelled Indonesia to reject the U.S. proposal, under present circumstances. Since when has the United States begun to petition Asian countries [to recognize the PRC]? Observers believe that Peking and Washington reached a certain agreement on their Asian policies during recent talks on normalization. Agreement was reached because China's hegemonist policy has begun to correspond with the U.S. ruling class' interests.

Nevertheless, Indonesia took a tough stand and rejected the pressure from Washington. Indonesian Foreign Minister Kusumaatmadja recently said that U.S.-China contacts had no influence on the Indonesian Government's relations with China. The minister pointed out that Jakarta's current policy is decided in the Indonesian capital, not abroad.

U.S. MISSILE CRUISER ARRIVES IN MANILA

LD201123 Moscow TASS in English 1023 GMT 20 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Manila, January 20, TASS--The missile cruiser Oklahoma City, the flagship of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, entered Manila Port today, with Vice Admiral Foley, the fleet's commander, on board. He is announced to meet representatives of the Government and Armed Forces of the Philippines. This show of U.S. military presence follows the recent signing of the U.S.-Philippines agreement on military bases.

ATTACKS ON SRV ELEVATED TO RANK OF 'STATE POLICY' BY PRC

LD232216 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has issued a resolute protest to the PRC Embassy in Hanoi against the systematic violation by the ruling circles of China of Vietnam's territorial integrity. The statement notes that of late the Chinese authorities have been feverishly stepping up armed provocations on the border with Vietnam. Specific data have also been quoted on the crimes of Beijing [Peking] against the peaceful population of Vietnam in border areas. On this here is a news commentary by our international affairs journalist Igor Lebedev: In the past few days the Chinese side has provoked over 50 incidents during which 20 peaceful Vietnamese citizens, civil guardsmen and border guards were killed and 15 wounded. The Chinese soldiers shoot at the Vietnamese border guards and fire mortars at peaceful Vietnamese villages. Large Chinese groups are perpetrating open attacks on populated Vietnamese border areas. Constant abuses are directed against Socialist Vietnam by means of powerful loudspeakers installed on Chinese territory. Leaflets are thrown into Vietnamese border villages containing gross slander against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and threats against the civilian population. These actions first and foremost testify to the fact that the stepping up of tension on the Vietnamese-Chinese border, the constant saber-rattling, attempts to intimidate the Vietnamese people and to hinder them by all means possible from restoring the country and building a new society have been elevated to the rank of state policy vis-a-vis sovereign and independent Vietnam by Beijing's authorities in the past few months. There is one more noteworthy feature: According to well informed political observers [nablyudatel], Beijing has stepped up its provocations against Vietnam, particularly since the restoration of the so-called new relations with the United States. A feverish increase in the numbers of Chinese troops is taking place on the border with Vietnam, as well as in military equipment, including aircraft and tanks.

The U.S. newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote: China has concentrated half a million soldiers in the Henan [Honan] and Guangxi [Kwangsi] provinces. The newspaper has recalled unambiguously that quite recently head of the Main Political Directorate of the Army Wei Guoqing [Wei Kuo-ching] went on an inspection tour of the country's southern areas.

The armed actions of Beijing against Socialist Vietnam cannot but arouse serious concern among the world public. All those who cherish peace in Southeast Asia resolutely condemn the provocations by China's ruling circles in border areas, aimed at kindling [razzhigat] war, and demand from the Chinese authorities an immediate end to actions threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and security of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

VIETNAM'S TRINH TELLS IZVESTIYA OF RECENT SOUTH ASIA TOUR

LD241117 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[IZVESTIYA correspondent M. Ilinskiy interview with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh: "Pursuing a Policy of Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] Hanoi--Nguyen Duy Trinh, member of the Vietnam Communist Party [VCP] Central Committee, vice premier of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, [SRV] Government and Vietnamese foreign minister, has completed a highly successful tour of a number of Asian countries.

"From 21 December 1978 through 4 January 1979," Comrade Nguyen Duy Trinh told M. Ilinskiy, IZVESTIYA correspondent in Hanoi, in an interview, "our delegation visited Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand and Laos. Following the behests of Ho Chi Minh, on behalf of the SRV Government and all the Vietnamese people we expressed our gratitude to all those countries for their support for our struggle. Everywhere the delegation was given a warm welcome, which expressed the deep feelings of all strata of the population and the leading figures in those countries toward the Vietnamese people's struggle for independence and unity and toward the memory of our esteemed president Ho Chi Minh."

Combining with the SRV party-government delegation's visit to the USSR, SRV Prime Minister Pham Van Dong's tour of Southeast Asian countries, SRV Vice Premier Nguyen Huu Tho's visit to the African Continent and other diplomatic actions, our visit was a success despite its brevity and was a further vivid demonstration of the SRV's correct foreign policy line aimed at strengthening peace, friendship and cooperation. Disregarding all the slanderous attacks aimed at reducing Vietnam's prestige in the international arena, and also thanks to the SRV's right political line and to our sincerity, the countries of southern Asia saw clearly that the SRV is pursuing a policy of peace and friendship and is constantly striving to create conditions favorable to the country's successful development and the resolute defense of its territorial integrity.

We brought back from our trip a precious new year gift--the desire of the peoples of southern Asia, whose attitude to Vietnam is one of profound sympathy, for close friendship and sincere cooperation.

We exchanged views with the leaders of the countries our delegation visited about the Beijing [Peking] leaders' hostile policy toward Vietnam, toward the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the SRV and the USSR, and toward the problems of peace and stability in Asia.

We also exchanged opinions on the Kampuchean situation. It is an undoubted fact that the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, whose downfall was inevitable, was for the past 3 years an obstacle to the progressive development of Kampuchea's people. That clique pursued toward its own nation a fascist policy whose savagery recalls the Dark Ages. At the same time it provoked military conflicts with neighboring countries, thereby seriously damaging peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation opposes any external interference in the country's internal affairs.

The official circles, public and press of the countries which we visited expressed their support for the Kampuchean people's just struggle for genuine independence and freedom and for peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

During the talks between the Vietnamese delegation and the leaders of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Laos--countries which are members of the nonaligned movement--unity of views was noted regarding the need to strengthen solidarity and oppose resolutely all attempts by imperialism and international reaction to split and undermine that movement. We agreed to cooperate in actively preparing for the successful holding of the conference of nonaligned countries' heads of state and government this year in Havana.

In connection with the start of the new year of 1979, Comrade Nguyen Duy Trinh said in conclusion, we ask you to convey via IZVESTIYA cordial wishes for friendship and solidarity to the fraternal Soviet people.

We hope that Soviet people under the leadership of the CPSU and its Central Committee headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev achieve even greater successes in implementing the imposing tasks set by the 25th CPSU Congress.

SOVIET, CUBAN INTERVENTION IN CAMBODIA DENIED

LD221404 Moscow TASS in English 1301 GMT 22 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Washington, January 22, TASS--The rightwing press continues spreading most fantastic inventions about "foreign interference" in Kampuchean affairs. Thus local circles circulate false reports alleging that Pol Pot's troops in Kampuchea took prisoner several Soviet as well as Cuban military advisers.

This is nothing more than a provocative story which is being circulated by Chinese liars, since there have never been any Soviet or Cuban military advisers in Kampuchea. Such inventions come from certain circles which want to spread false reports on so-called Soviet Cuban "interference" in Kampuchean affairs. These are long-familiar inventions and it is well known who stands behind them.

GRADUAL RETURN TO NORMALITY IN CAMBODIA REPORTED

LD232000 Moscow TASS in English 1919 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Phnom Penh, January 23, TASS--TASS special correspondent Gennadiy Zhideley reports:

During the three and a half years of the rule of the Pol Pot regime most buildings in the city came into utter decay. Waste heaps block space between houses. The thoroughfares are strewn with electrical telephone wires.

In order to bring life in the city back to normal, says Prek Sun, member of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean National Front for National Salvation, responsible for the work of the propaganda bodies under the People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, efficient organization is required. In the first place it is, of course, necessary to tackle the problem of water supply, to restore the electric lines, and to rid the city of waste. We understand that this cannot be done overnight for this will take time.

At present, representatives of the revolutionary power are compiling lists of projects to be restored as top priority. They are also taking stock of food reserves and housing capable of accommodating the inhabitants returning to the capital.

In some of the districts of the city, water supply is back in operation. Evenings, electricity is on in some of the streets.

26-year-old That Salavat has made her way to Phnom Penh from a commune in the province of Kratie. She came from a place where she lost her husband and two brothers murdered for expressing their discontent over the inhuman living conditions.

We lived, she recounts, in a state of constant fear not believing that the situation may change. It was only when we learned that an organization had been set up openly opposing the assassins and their underlings, that hope was born. I could not stay at the place where my next of kin were killed and on the very day that the news about the liberation of Phnom Penh had reached us I set out for home on foot.

In the city's streets one can see groups of soldiers of the Revolutionary Army who had liberated the city. We were introduced to one of them, Ot Solit, a company commander, the first to enter Phnom Penh. From 1976 he participated in the movement and the struggle against the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique. Because of this all his relatives were shot to death.

GROWING JAPAN TIES WITH PRC, U.S. MAY DAMAGE USSR RELATIONS

LD231657 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Bandura article: "Contradictory Trends"]

[Text] Tokyo--Japan started 1979 with hopes of succeeding in driving away fears and the lack of confidence in the future and of materializing the ideals proclaimed in the country's peaceful constitutions. It seems, however, that these hopes have not been adopted by those forces which openly prefer acute militaristic fever to international detente and the people's hopes connected with detente.

The Finance Ministry has sent to press a draft state budget which envisages that military spending will increase by more than 10 percent.... The Japanese Army's Joint Chiefs of Staff have begun revising their military-strategic concepts with the aim of generating a new spurt in the arms race.... Japan's National Defense Agency is completing the development of a new military program which is designed to be implemented in the 1980-1984 period and which provides for a 70 percent increase in the navy's complement of ships.... The navy has decided to reinforce its air arm with a detachment of aircraft for mining sea straits from the air.... This is far from a complete list of information connected with the country's military department, which the Japanese public has received during the first 10 days of January alone.

"Will there be any end to this stream, and when?" the Japanese ask with alarm when they open their newspapers each morning. Moreover, special concern is being caused by two interconnected trends which are a recurrent theme in all materials of this kind. The first is the overtly expressed anti-Soviet thrust of the plans being devised by Japan's military department. In particular, the "Soviet threat to Japan's shipping lines on the Pacific Ocean" which has been concocted by propaganda strategists is being taken as a pretext for the unprecedented expansion of the country's navy. The purchase of aircraft from the United States for minelaying is being planned, according to ASAHI, in order to "block the Soviet fleet in the Sea of Japan by mining the exits from this sea which lead to the ocean." To judge from press reports, the Soviet Union is also the sole "target" of Japan's military preparations scheduled in accordance with the 1980-1984 program.

The other distinctive feature of the plans being hatched by the military is the desire to write Japan's military programs and concepts into the anti-Soviet strategy being devised not only by Japan's traditional ally--Washington--but also by the Beijing [Peking] leadership. As the Tokyo SHIMBUN in particular writes, when compiling long-term plans for Japan's militarization, the Joint Chiefs of Staff proceed from the "military solidarity between the United States, China and Japan" which has been taking shape since the "normalization" of Japanese-Chinese and U.S.-Chinese relations. It is precisely this "solidarity" which is leading to the prominence of an anti-Soviet orientation in the foreground of Japan's military policy.

In its own way this development of the situation is logical. The danger of Japan's participation in military adventures against the Soviet Union was pointed out in the past in connection with the negotiations between Beijing and Tokyo concerning the conclusion of the notorious Japanese-Chinese "Peace and Friendship" Treaty. Almost 3 months have elapsed since the treaty was implemented. Japan's military department is already hastening to "display solidarity" with the Beijing leaders in anti-Sovietism.

The adventurist nature of this course, which is fraught with patently serious consequences primarily for Japan, cannot fail to prompt doubts, and, it must be said, cause such doubts in circles that are exceptionally worried about the fate of Japan and the fate of Soviet-Japanese relations. M. Nakazima, a professor at the Tokyo Institute and a prominent expert in Far Eastern problems, stresses: "The appearance among those who support a Japanese-Chinese rapprochement of a readiness to accept China's calls for strengthening Japan's military might for a struggle against the USSR is extremely dangerous." "It is not an intensification of the anti-Soviet thrust of Japan's foreign policy in alliance with China that might conform with Japan's interests," asserts another expert on international questions, Professor M. Kosaka of Kyoto University, "but the adoption of a course toward arms limitation in the Pacific Ocean."

No, these are not isolated comments. It would be no exaggeration to say that a realization of the danger of the course leading to a confrontation with the USSR is lacking only in extreme reactionary circles and in the military which is closely linked with the reaction. Increasingly frequent and sharp rejection of the dangerous plans can be heard in the country as the threat of irreversible changes in Japan's policy toward the USSR becomes apparent and the danger of Japan's direct involvement in the "Far East NATO" which Beijing is forming becomes clear.

The behavior of Japan's ruling circles serves as a distinctive reaction to the public's anxiety. At this time, the government leaders are not losing any opportunity to alluringly declare their desire to promote improved Soviet-Japanese relations. What is this? The voice of reason? But is it capable of drowning the wailing of the "strategists" who are brandishing the "Soviet threat" bugbear? Moreover, Japan's National Defense Agency is not a small private store. It is a government department. From this viewpoint the plans that are repeatedly promoted by the military compel people to think about the true value of those statements that the Japanese leaders have frequently made in recent days.

Indeed, are not the military and the ultra rightwingers inspired by those indispensable claims against Soviet territory which are invariably present in statements made by Japan's politicians and statesmen about readiness to improve Soviet-Japanese relations? Does not the reluctance of the country's ruling circles to recognize the realities which have developed since World War II serve to nurture adventurist "programs"? Does not the passive attitude toward the draft treaty of neighborliness and cooperation proposed by the Soviet Union add fuel to the militarists' flames?

Such positions, which a definite section of Japan's ruling circles are totally reluctant to abandon, contradict the real interests of the Japanese people themselves. They essentially suit the purposes of the opponents of Soviet-Japanese neighborliness and prompt them to more and more new actions.

After all, it is precisely against this background that the "Soviet threat" bugbear is being used increasingly actively by the opponents of Soviet-Japanese neighborliness. Having sensed the clear reluctance of the country's public to subject relations with the USSR to the risk of destruction, the reaction has recently switched to the path of intimidating the population with slanderous "scenarios" of an attack against Japan by the USSR. You do not have to go far for an example. The monthly GENDAI in its recent new year issue offers its readers a closely written 40-page text, of a "futurological picture from the immediate future." [paragraph continues]

The title of this article enables one to form a judgement about its content: "The USSR Makes a Strike Against Tokyo Via Sado Island!" It is not difficult to determine whose purposes are served by this delirious scribble. The unconcealed interest of the Japanese military, of the ultras, and of the Beijing leaders, in winning over the entire population of Japan to their beliefs, and of directing the entire Japanese people onto the path of fanatical enmity toward the Soviet Union, stand out behind concoctions of this kind.

One would hope that the Japanese public will find the strength to cope with the sickness that Japanese and foreign reaction is attempting to spread throughout the country. This process, however, would be far more successful if Japan's ruling circles seriously comprehended the vital importance for this country of eliminating and not whipping up negative elements in Soviet-Japanese relations. Only on this path can confirmation be found for the sincerity of statements about Japan's love of peace, and about its readiness to preserve peace and friendship in relations with the Soviet Union.

The public's increasingly great realization of the need, finally, to begin a businesslike discussion of the draft Soviet-Japanese neighborliness and cooperation treaty proposed by the Soviet side is an encouraging factor which attests to the possibility of events developing precisely in this direction. The conclusion of this treaty would not only confirm the sincerity of the Japanese side's statements about its desire to develop relations between the peoples of both countries, but it would also finally disarm the dangerous speculations regarding the "threat" to Japan from the Soviet Union.

Otherwise, the actions of the militarists and their accomplices could prove heavier when weighed on the political scales than all the statements by the Japanese leaders put together.

JAPANESE OFFICIALS' TIES WITH GRUMMAN CORPORATION EXPOSED

LD222 Moscow TASS in English 1204 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, January 23, TASS--Ever more leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party of Japan are being exposed as involved in the scandal of the American aircraft Grumman Corporation, which paid off senior officials to promote the sale of combat planes in Japan.

Backstage contacts with the corporation, the YOMIURI writes, were maintained, specifically, by Sadanori Yamanaka, a former chief of the National Defence Agency. Earlier, the press reported that former prime ministers Nobusuke Kishi, Kakuei Tanaka, and Takeo Fukuda, and a former National Defence Agency chief Raizo Matsuna, were also suspected of machinations.

The affairs of the Grumman Corporation became known after the exposure of two other United States aircraft corporations, Lockheed and McDonnell-Douglas. Under pressure of evidence, the authorities had had to investigate the Lockheed affair and to arraign for trial Kakuei Tanaka and the other involved persons, but this time they did not seek to institute proceedings even formally. The government refused to comply with the opposition demand for a parliamentary inquiry into the Grumman and McDonnell-Douglas machinations and for bringing to book the well known bribe-takers.

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U S S R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
P O L I T I C A L & S O C I A L D E V E L O P M E N T S

R 1

SOVIET JEWISH WRITER HAILS USSR, SOCIALISM

LD231426 Moscow TASS in English 1346 GMT 23 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 23, TASS--Poet Aron Vergelis emplaned today for the United States to attend the annual meeting arranged by the New York magazine JEWISH AFFAIRS. Soviet Jewish men-of-letters maintain close links with that progressive publication. At the magazine's invitation Aron Vergelis will also visit Chicago, Los Angeles and will familiarise himself with the life of Jews in the United States. "I am ready to meet most different public representatives and to conduct a dialogue with them" he told a TASS correspondent before his flight to Washington.

Aron Vergelis edits in Moscow the literary monthly magazine SOVIETISCHE GEYMLAND, which is published in the Yiddish language in an edition of 25,000. The magazine comprehensively portrays the Soviet way of life, writes about people of the Jewish literature, novels, stories, verses by Russian, Soviet and foreign writers.

The magazine printed many works by Sholom Aleichem, Peretz-Markisch, novels by Note Lurye, plays by Itsik Fefer. One can see almost in every magazine also the names of progressive Jewish prose writers, poets and publicists from the United States, Israel, other countries.

The December 1978 issue of the magazine, devoted to essays, can be described as an anthology of present-day life of Soviet Jews. The magazine received works from many men-of-letters--Haim Melamud from the Ukraine, Brohe and Aron Burshteins from the Urals, Buzi Miller from Birobidzhan.

The magazine attaches great significance to the development of links with foreign publications. Recently, when a group of representatives of different circles of Israel's peace-loving public visited the USSR, the editorial board urged them, as Vergelis said, "to put an end to the cold war atmosphere in Jewish literature and the press". Through them the proposal was extended to the Israeli magazine DIE GOLDENE KETT (GOLDEN CHAIN) that an exchange of materials be arranged with the SOVIETISCHE GEYMLAND.

"We are waiting for a reply. But we want to develop links not only with men-of-letters of Israel, but also with Jewish writers of America, other countries", Vergelis said.

Aron Vergelis is convinced that "the progressive Jewish literature and art draw vital strength in inseparable links with the common struggle of all peoples for democracy, for socialism". "The Soviet Jewish literature is developing freely, in unison with the diversified life of the country", he said.

The writer's creative work reaffirms these words. A collection of his lyrics, a book of travel notes "16 countries including Monaco", which were earlier published in the Yiddish language, will be put out in the Russian language this year. [The] 60 year old writer continues his work over the novel "Time", in which by the example of a number of generations of one family, who resettled from a Ukrainian settlement to Birobidzhan, shows changes in the life of Jews in the years of Soviet power. The novel will also be off the press in the Yiddish language.

Aron Vergelis devotes much time to social activities. He is member of the Soviet Peace Committee, member of the Board of the "USSR-USA" Society.

COMMENTATOR NOTES STALIN'S 'GROSS VIOLATIONS' OF LAW

LD231600 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 21 Jan 79 LD

["Moscow Mailbag" program presented by Jo Adamov]

[Excerpt] Why was the city of Stalingrad renamed Volgograd? We have this question from (Norman Weimar), 53 South Richmond Grove, South Orange, New Jersey.

It was renamed because when Stalin was at the helm of the country there was gross violation of socialist democracy in the Soviet Union--violation of the law. As a result, many innocent people suffered. This was all stated in detail at the 20th Congress of the Communist Party, and it was felt it would not be fitting to have a city named after a man who allowed these violations while in office, though we still refer to the battle as the Battle of Stalingrad because that is what it was called at that time. There were other cities named after him too, and these were also renamed. But I will say this, we do give Stalin credit for winning the war, for carrying through the industrialization and the collectivization of the country. No one takes that away from him.

NEW PRIMORSKIY KRAYKOM ELECTED IN VLADIVOSTOK

OW231533 Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 2140 GMT 21 Jan 79 OW

[Excerpts] A Primorskiy Kraykom plenum has been held to discuss organizational matters. At the plenum Viktor Pavlovich Lomakin was elected first secretary of the Primorskiy Kraykom and Gagarov second secretary. Elected as kraykom secretaries were Strokanev, Safronov and Khromovskikh.

The plenum elected the following members of the kraykom bureau: Lomakin, Gagarov, Grigoryev, Yelizaryev, Karabanov, Maslov, Popova, Safronov, Sidorov, Strashko, Strokanev, Khromovskikh, Sharin and Shilo. Butakov and Makeyev were elected candidate members of the Kraykom Bureau.

The plenum confirmed the following as chiefs of kraykom departments: Sidorov of the Party Organizational Work Department; Zhmakin of the Propaganda and Agitation Department; Nikonov of the Science and Educational Institutions Department; Volyntsev of the Industry Department; Bepalov of a department of the kraykom; Chubay of the Fish Industry Department; Kiselev of the Light and Food Industry Department; Mazur of the Construction Department; Ukolov of the Transportation and Communications Department; Taran of the Agriculture Department; Inozemtsev of the Culture Department; Belomestnyy of the Administrative Organs Department; Rozhnov of the General Department; and Golikov of the Finance and Economy Department.

Andreyev was confirmed as chairman of the kraykom's Party Commission and Makeyev as editor of the kray paper KRASNOYE ZNAMYA.

A meeting of the kray party organization Auditing Commission elected Komarov as chairman of the Auditing Commission and Tklich as deputy chairman.

CSA REPORTS FIGURES ON PLAN FULFILLMENT IN 1978

LD240845 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jan 79 pp 1-2 LD

[USSR Central Statistical Administration report: "Mounting the Steps of the 5-Year Plan. On the Results of the Fulfillment of the USSR State Economic and Social Development Plan in 1978"]

[Text] Widely developing nationwide socialist competition, the Soviet Union's working people have achieved new successes in 1978 in implementing the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. Further growth has been achieved in the country's economic potential and the people's material and cultural living standards.

The main indicators of the USSR's economic and social development in the past year are characterized by the following data:

National income utilized for consumption and accumulation	104
Industrial output--total	104.8
Including:	
Manufacture of means of production	105
Manufacture of consumer goods	104
Agricultural output	104
Freight volume for all types of transport	105.3
Commissioning of fixed capital	109
Capital investment--total	105
Including: State investments	106
Number of workers and employees	102.0
Labor productivity:	
In industry	103.6
In agriculture (social production)	105
In construction	102.2
In railroad transport	101.6
National economic profit (in comparable prices)	106
Per capita real income	103
Wages fund for national economy	105
Average wages of workers and employees	103
Work payment of kolkhoz members	104.4
Payments and benefits received by population from social consumption funds:	
Total	105.7
Per capita	104.7
Retail trade volume of state and cooperative trade	103.9
Volume of consumer services for population	107.9
Commissioning of total area of housing	100.7
Foreign trade	110.4

The further development of science and technology and the introduction of their achievements into all sectors of the national economy continued in 1978. In the past year:

Models of new types of machines, equipment, apparatus, instruments and automation facilities created	About 4,000 types
Mechanized flow and automatic lines installed in industrial enterprises	12,000 units
Work areas, shops and production facilities switched to comprehensive mechanization and automation	5,000
Automated accounting, planning and control systems created	More than 400 systems
Including automated control systems for technological processes	260 systems
Inventions and rationalization proposals introduced	4 million

The labor of 3.7 million people was saved by raising social labor productivity in the national economy; the material-intensiveness of the social product was reduced, resulting in the saving of about R3 billion in raw materials, materials, fuel and other subjects of labor.

National income increased by R16 billion in 1978 and totaled R417 billion. About 75 percent of the national income was utilized for consumption and, taking into account the expenditure on housing and sociocultural construction, about 80 percent of the national income was channeled directly into providing for the people's well-being.

Industrial output increased by R27 billion compared with 1977 and totaled R587 billion (in enterprise wholesale prices as of 1 January 1975).

Agricultural output in 1978 totaled R130 billion--14 percent more than average annual production in the Ninth 5-Year Plan.

Fixed capital worth total of R120 billion was commissioned in the national economy.

The Soviet Union's foreign trade totaled about R70 billion. The socialist countries and primarily the CEMA countries accounted for the bulk of USSR trade.

I. Industry

The annual plan for industrial output sales was overfulfilled. The increase in production compared with 1977 totaled 4.8 percent as against the planned 4.5 percent (average daily production increased by 5 percent). The figures for individual industrial sectors of industry are cited below:

	Production Volume in 1978 as Percentage of 1977
Electricity	105
Fuel Industry	103
Ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy	102
Chemical and petrochemical industry	106
Machinebuilding and metalworking	109
Timber, woodworking, and pulp and paper industries	102
Construction materials industry	102
Light industry	104
Food Industry	102
Production of cultural, everyday goods and domestic appliances	108

Labor productivity increased 3.6 percent; more than 75 percent of the increase was obtained by raising labor productivity. Compared with the previous year, savings achieved by reducing the prime cost of industrial output totaled about R2 billion. Profits increased more than 6 percent.

The fulfillment of the output sales plan and the growth rates of production and labor productivity for the ministries and union republics are characterized by the following figures:

	Percentage Fulfillment of Annual Output Sales Plan	1978 as Percentages of 1977	
		Production Volume	Labor Productivity
All-Union and Union Republic Ministries and Departments:			
Power and Electrification	100.9	105	103
Petroleum Industry	100.7	105	104
Petroleum Refining and petrochemical industry	100.3	105	105
Gas industry	103	109	106
Coal industry	99	100.3	98
Ferrous metallurgy	99.3	103	103
Nonferrous metallurgy	100.4	100.9	99.8
Chemical industry	99.7	105	103
Power machinebuilding	101	105	103
Heavy and transport machinebuilding	100.4	106	105
Electrical engineering industry	102	105	104
Chemical and petroleum machinebuilding	101	106	105
Machine tool and tool building industry	100.7	109	107
Instrument making, automation facilities and control systems	101	110	109
Automotive industry	103	109	107
Tractor and agricultural machinebuilding	100.8	106	106
Machinebuilding for livestock raising and fodder production	100.5	109	107
Construction, road and municipal machinebuilding	102	103	103
Machinebuilding for the light and food industries and household appliances	100.5	106	105
Timber and wood processing industry	99.6	101	102
Pulp and paper industry	100.7	103	103
Construction materials industry	100.6	103	102
Light industry	100.2	104	104
Food industry	100.1	102	102
Meat and dairy industry	97	103	101

Fish industry	102	99.4	99
Procurements	102	105	104
Medical industry	101	109	108
Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry	100.4	106	102

Union Republics (Including
Industry Under Union Jurisdiction)

RSFSR	100.9	104.5	103.7
Ukrainian SSR	100.7	104.4	102.6
Belorussian SSR	101.3	107.6	105.0
Uzbek SSR	102.9	105.3	102.7
Kazakh SSR	101.1	104.1	102.6
Georgian SSR	101.9	107.4	105.6
Azerbaijan SSR	101.3	108.0	105.0
Lithuanian SSR	102.0	105.6	103.6
Moldavian SSR	101.5	103.6	101.3
Latvian SSR	101.2	103.1	102.6
Kirgiz SSR	101.3	107.2	104.6
Tadzhik SSR	101.9	105.5	101.5
Armenian SSR	101.9	107.7	103.2
Turkmen SSR	102.1	103.6	101.0
Estonian SSR	101.6	103.1	102.6

The indicators for the technical and economic standards of production and the quality of output have improved. Relative expenditure of fuel at power stations declined 1 percent over the year. The oil and gas borehole drilling speed in operational drilling increased 8 percent. Utilization of blast furnace capacity in ferrous metallurgy increased 2.5 percent. Average daily steel output per square meter of hearth area in open-hearth furnaces increased 1.2 percent. The hourly productivity of rotary kilns and mills in the cement industry increased. The productivity of spinning and weaving machinery showed some increase.

The series production of 3,500 new types of industrial output was assimilated and begun. Over 1,800 types of obsolete machines, equipment, apparatus, instruments and articles were removed from production.

The volume of output in the top quality category increased by one-third. By the end of the year 60,000 articles had the state seal of quality.

Production of the most important types of output was as follows:

	Produced in 1978	1978 as Percentage of 1977
Electric power--billion kilowatt-hours	1,202	104
Oil (including gas condensate--million tons	572	105
Gas--billions cubic meters	372	108
Coal--million tons	724	100.2
Pig Iron--million tons	111	103
Steel--million tons	151	103

Rolled ferrous metals--million tons	122	103
Of which, finished rolled stock	105	103
Steel pipes--million tons	17.5	103
Iron ore--million tons	244	102
Mineral fertilizers (in conventional units)--million tons	98.0	101
Chemical plant-protection agents (in conventional units)--thousand tons	492	101
100-percent caustic soda--million tons	2.8	104
Sulfuric acid--million tons	22.4	106
Synthetic resins and plastics--million tons	3.5	106
Chemical fibers and yarns--million tons	1.1	104
Motor vehicles tires--millions	59.0	103
Detergents--thousand tons	878	106
Turbines--million kilowatts	19.5	103
Turbine generators--million kilowatts	18.2	101
AC electric motors--million kilowatts	49.5	103
Metal-cutting machine tools:		
Thousands	236	99.9
Million rubles	1,748	109
Of the total number of metal-cutting machine tools, those with numerical program control--thousands	7.3	112
Forging and pressing machines:		
Thousands	55.4	102
Million rubles	507	110
Instruments, automation facilities and spare parts--billion rubles	4.4	113
Computer facilities and spare parts--billion rubles	3.3	119
Blast furnace, steel smelting and rolling equipment--million rubles	273	100
Coal stopping combines--thousands	1.2	104
Tunneling combines--units	544	103
Petroleum apparatus--thousand tons	180	105
Chemical equipment and spare parts--million rubles	708	106
Manufacturing equipment and spare parts for the light industry--million rubles	716	106
Manufacturing equipment and spare parts for the food, meat and dairy and fish industry--million rubles	523	104
Mainline diesel locomotives--million horsepower	3.8	104
Mainline electric locomotives--million horsepower	3.5	105
Mainline freightcars--thousands	68.3	96
Motor vehicles--thousands	2,151	103
Of which:		
Trucks:	762	104
Passenger cars	1,312	102

Tractors:		
Thousands	576	101
Million horsepower	47.0	103
Agricultural machinery--billion rubles	2.5	107
Machinery for livestock-raising and fodder production--billion rubles	1.9	109
Grain-harvesting combines--thousands	113	107
Cotton-harvesting machines--thousands	8.8	102
Excavators--thousands	41.1	99.1
Commercial timber (excluding kolkhoz timber procurements)--million cubic meters	279	95
Pulp--million tons	7.6	102
Paper--million tons	5.5	102
Cardboard--million tons	3.7	102
Cement--million tons	127	99.9
Precast ferroconcrete--million cubic meters of articles	122	101
Slate--billion standard tiles	7.3	99
All types of textiles--billion square meters including:	10.6	102
Cotton	7.0	102
Wool	0.8	101
Linen	0.8	101
Silk	1.7	103
Sewn articles--billion rubles	21.5	104
Knitted underwear and outer garments-- billions of articles	1.6	103
Leather footwear--million pairs	740	100.5
Meat--total--million tons	15.2	103
Of which, factory processed	9.5	105
Sausage products--million tons	3.1	102
Edible fish products including canned fish--billion rubles	4.6	100.7
Butter--million tons	1.4	98
Wholemilk products in milk equivalent-- million tons	24.7	102
Dried milk and dried cream--thousand tons	360	102
Granulated sugar--million tons	12.2	101
Vegetable oil--million tons	3.0	100.7
Confectionary--million tons	3.7	105
Natural tea (high grade--thousand tons)	160	103
Canned goods--billion standard cans	14.8	99
Mixed feed--million tons	56	108
Clocks and watches--millions	63.3	104
Chinaware and earthenware--million articles	1,083	102
High-quality glass and crystal tableware-- million rubles	359	109
Radio receivers, radio phonographs--millions	8.7	101
Television sets--millions	7.2	101
Of which color receivers	1.4	128
Refrigerators--millions	6.1	105
Washing machines--millions	3.7	101
Motor cycles and motor scooters--thousands	1,099	100.9
Furniture--billion rubles	4.9	106

There was an increase in the production of nonferrous and rare metals, petrochemical products, refined petroleum products and other types of output. Surveyed resources of the majority of the most important types of minerals increased.

The development of territorial-production complexes--the West Siberian, Bratsk, Pavlodar-Ekibastuz, Orenburg, Nizhnekamsk and other complexes--is being implemented.

Despite the positive results of the work of industry as a whole, some production associations and enterprises did not fulfill the targets for the production and delivery of the set range of output of reliable quality or for labor productivity growth and accumulations.

The plan for raising labor productivity was underfulfilled by the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Ministry of the Timber Industry and the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry.

The plan was underfulfilled for coal extraction and production of rolled ferrous metals, mineral fertilizers, chemical fibers, AC electric motors, forging and pressing machinery, commercial timber, cement, textiles, meat, butter and vegetable oil, detergents, chinaware and earthenware and certain other types of output.

The production associations and enterprises of the Ministries of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, the Chemical Industry, the Automotive Industry, the Timber and Woodworking Industry, Light Industry and a number of others did not fully insure the delivery of output to consumers in accordance with contracts concluded and orders issued.

Individual ministries underfulfilled the targets of the science and technology development plan.

II. Agriculture

In 1978 agricultural workers, implementing the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum, achieved a considerable increase in production of many arable and livestock products. Lofty new heights were scaled in grain production--235 million tons.

Production of arable products on all categories of farms was as follows (in millions of tons):

	Annual Average				
	1971-1975	1976-1978	1976	1977	1978
Grain	181.6	218.2	223.8	195.7	235
Raw cotton	7.67	8.51	8.28	8.76	8.50
Sugar beet (factory)	76.0	95.6	99.9	93.1	93.8
Sunflowers	5.97	5.50	5.28	5.90	5.31
Potatoes	89.8	84.9	85.1	83.7	85.9
Vegetables	23.0	25.2	25.0	24.1	26.3

The gross grain harvest in 1978 was 53.4 million tons more than the 1971-1975 average. The grain yield last year was 18.3 quintals per hectare--24 percent more than the average annual yield in the previous 5-year plan.

Wheat production totaled 120.8 million tons, rye production 13.6 million tons, corn for grain 9 million tons and rice production 2.1 million tons.

A major contribution to grain production was made by the RSFSR agricultural workers, who harvested 136.3 million tons, and the Ukrainian agricultural workers, who harvested 50.6 million tons. This is the first time that such a harvest was obtained in these republics. A good grain harvest was gathered in the Kazakh SSR--27.9 million tons--and in the Belorussian SSR and the Moldavian SSR. The farmers of Krasnodarskiy and Stavropolskiy krais, the Bashkirskaya ASSR, and Orenburgskaya, Rostovskaya, Saratovskaya, Volgogradskaya, Uralskaya, Odesskaya and other oblasts made a fitting contribution to the country's grain resources.

The RSFSR, Ukrainian SSR, Kazakh SSR, Belorussian SSR, Uzbek SSR, Azerbaijan SSR, Kirgiz SSR, Tadzhik SSR, and Armenian SSR considerably overfulfilled the plan for the sale of grain to the state.

The cotton growers achieved great successes. Uzbek SSR farms delivered 5.5 million tons to the procurement centers and Turkmen SSR farms over 1 million tons. The Azerbaijan SSR, Tadzhik SSR and Kirgiz SSR overfulfilled the plan for the sale of raw cotton.

A good sugar beet harvest was obtained in the Ukraine, which delivered 47.6 million tons to the procurement centers. Belorussia made a considerable contribution to potato production.

At the same time, because of the unfavorable weather conditions in 1978, the planned growth in sugar beet, sunflower, potato and fruit production was not achieved in a number of regions; thus the plan for procurements of these products was underfulfilled.

A great deal of work is being done to guarantee the harvests of agricultural crops in 1979. Winter crops for this year's harvest have been sown over 37.3 million hectares and 110 million hectares have been plowed for winter fallow. The country's farms are provided with grain and pulse crop seeds; the overwhelming majority of seeds have been brought up to sowing conditions.

Massive repair of agricultural equipment is underway on kolkhozes and sovkhoses, mineral and organic fertilizers are being applied to the fields, and considerable areas have been irrigated for fall moisture retention purposes.

The productive livestock population (million head) stood at:

	Position as of 1 January		
	1977	1978	1979
All categories of farms:			
Cattle	110.3	112.7	114.4
Of which, cows	42.0	42.6	43.1
Hogs	63.1	70.5	74.7
Sheep, goats	145.3	146.6	148.8

Kolkhozes, interfarm enterprises, sovkhoses and other state farms

Cattle	87.5	89.4	90.8
Of which, cows	28.6	29.2	29.7
Hogs	51.3	55.7	58.6
Sheep and goats	116.5	117.2	118.8

Private subsidiary plots held by the population:

Cattle	22.8	23.3	23.6
Of which, cows	13.4	13.4	13.4
Hogs	11.8	14.8	16.1
Sheep and goats	28.8	29.4	30.0

Production of livestock products on all categories of farms is characterized by the following figures:

Annual Average

	1971-1975	1976-1978	1976	1977	1978
Meat (carcass weight)--million tons	14.0	14.5	13.6	14.7	15.2
Milk--million tons	87.4	93.0	89.7	94.9	94.5
Eggs--billions	51.4	60.6	56.2	61.2	64.4
Wool--thousand tons	442.1	452.0	435.5	459.0	461.5

In comparison with 1977, production increased as follows: meat by 3 percent, eggs by 5 percent and wool by 1 percent. Kolkhozes, interfarm enterprises and sovkhoses did not achieve an increase in the gross milk yield last year.

More coarse fodder and silage was procured and more concentrated feed was allocated for public livestock production than for the 1977-1978 period.

State purchases of livestock products on all categories of farms were as follows:

Annual Average

	1971-1975	1976-1978	1976	1977	1978
Livestock and poultry--million tons:					
Live weight	15.4	16.1	15.1	16.3	17.0
Carcass weight equivalent	9.9	10.1	9.3	10.2	10.7
Milk--million tons	52.1	59.1	56.2	60.8	60.4
Eggs--billions	27.5	36.3	32.9	36.8	39.3

The average weight per head of cattle sold to the state by kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other state farms rose 9 kg compared with 1977.

Kolkhozes' gross income totaled R24.6 billion and increased 2 percent over the year.

The further development of interfarm cooperation in the countryside continued. By the beginning of 1979 there were over 8,000 interfarm enterprises, organizations and associations.

Capital investments in agricultural development for the entire range of work totaled R34.4 billion, of which investment by the state totaled R22.9 billion and investment by kolkhozes R11.5 billion. Some R7 billion was invested in irrigation and land reclamation construction work.

Some 259,000 trucks and specialized vehicles were delivered to agriculture, as were 371,000 tractors with a total capacity of 29 million horsepower, 111,000 grain-harvesting combines, 9,000 corn-harvesting combines, 11,000 potato-harvesting combines, 14,000 beet-harvesting combines, 49,000 silage-harvesting combines, 9,000 cotton-harvesting machines, 107,000 tractor mowers, 32,000 pick-up balers, 6,000 units for the production of vitamin grass meal, 24,000 sprinklers and many other machines and mechanisms.

In 1978 agriculture received 79 million tons of mineral fertilizers, or 2 million tons more than in 1977, and 2.2 million tons of chemical feed additives.

The plan for the delivery of most types of equipment to agriculture was fulfilled. The plan for the delivery of mineral fertilizers and chemical feed additives was underfulfilled.

Reforestation work was carried out in state forests on 2.1 million hectares, including the sowing and planting of forest over 1 million hectares. Forestry layout measures were conducted on 47 million hectares.

III. Transport and Communications

The freight turnover of all types of transport totaled 5.9 trillion ton-kilometers and increased 5.3 percent in comparison with the previous year. Passenger volume reached 841 billion passenger-kilometers and increased 4.8 percent.

Fulfillment of the annual plan for transport types is characterized by the following figures:

	Fulfilled in 1978	Percentage Fulfillment of Annual Plan	1978 as a Percentage of 1977
Freight turnover--billions of ton-kilometers:			
Railroad transport	3,426	100.7	103
General purpose river transport	243	101	106
General purpose motor vehicle transport	116	100.3	106
Oil pipeline transport	1,049	100.2	114

Freight shipments--millions of tons:

Railroad transport	3,758	100	101
General purpose river transport	546	103	105
General purpose motor vehicle transport	6,176	100.8	104
Oil pipeline transport	589	99.7	105

In maritime transport compared with 1977, freight shipments by all types of shipping increased 4 percent, and freight shipments in containers increased 5 percent. The plan for freight shipments on internal routes was fulfilled; that for foreign routes was underfulfilled. At seaports 93.4 percent of all cargo handling work was done by comprehensively mechanized facilities.

Air transport overfulfilled the plans for passenger traffic, the total volume of air freight shipments, and air services for sectors of the national economy. About 100 million passengers were transported during the year. Aircraft chemical-spraying work in agriculture and forestry was carried out over 96 million hectares.

In individual types of transport the plan for shipments of a number of types of freight was underfulfilled. Full use was not made of the freight capacity of rolling stock. Considerable unproductive periods were permitted to occur during cargo handling operations and freightcars were permitted to make trips empty.

Communications enterprises (mail, telegraph, telephone and radio) fulfilled the plan for total output; compared with 1977 total communications output increased 6 percent. The plan for increasing the extent of intercity telephone lines and the capacity of urban and rural telephone stations was fulfilled. The radio and television stations network was expanded.

IV. Capital Construction

In the past year 230 new major state industrial enterprises were commissioned and modernization, expansion and technical reequipment were carried out at existing enterprises and shops.

The commissioning of major production facilities through constructing new ones and expanding and modernizing existing enterprises is characterized by the following figures:

	Capacities Commissioned in 1978
Power stations--million kilowatts	8.3
Coal--million tons	26
Iron Ore--million tons	19.8
Pig iron--million tons	2.2
Steel--million tons	2.9
Rolled ferrous metals (finished)--million tons	1.0
Mineral fertilizers (in conventional units)--million tons	3
Synthetic resins and plastics--thousand tons	206
Chemical fibers and yarns--thousand tons	45.9

Automobile tires--millions	4.6
Turbines--thousand kilowatts	411
Mainline freightcars--thousands	3.9
Metal cutting machine tools--thousands	2.4
Motor vehicles (including buses)--thousands	40.8
Tractors--thousands	21.3
Grain-harvesting combines--thousands	10.6
Single-scoop excavators--thousands	2.2
Paper--thousand tons	131
Cement--million tons	4.1
Knitted underwear and outerwear--millions of articles	13.5
China and earthenware products--millions of articles	83
Granulated sugar--thousand quintals of beets processed per day	156
Confectionery--thousand tons	53
Canned vegetables and fruit--millions of standard cans	250
Meat--tons per shift	577
Wholemilk produce--thousand tons of milk per shift	2.5
Main pipelines for oil and petroleum products--thousand kilometers	2.3
Main gas pipelines and outlets--thousand kilometers	4.8
New railroad lines--kilometers	699
Railroads electrified--kilometers	542
Elevators--million tons	4.3
Granaries and grain and seed stores--million tons	5.6

As a result of technical reequipment and other organizational and technical measures, the capacities of existing enterprises increased in 1978 sufficiently to produce 700,000 tons of steel, 400,000 tons of rolled ferrous metals, 4,000 metal-cutting machine tools, 2,300 tractors and 400,000 tons of cement.

In power generation the first unit at the Sayano-Shushenskoye GES, with a capacity of 640,000 kilowatts, and three units at the Ingurskaya GES, and a power unit with a capacity of 500,000 kilowatts at Reftinskiy GRES, Sverdlovskaya Oblast, were commissioned.

In the oil refining and petrochemical industry the Pavlodar oil refinery was commissioned. Capacities were expanded at other oil refineries and enterprises producing automobile tires, synthetic rubber and industrial rubber articles.

In the coal industry new coal mines and open pits were commissioned and the capacities of a number of existing mines and pits were increased through expansion and modernization.

In ferrous metallurgy the sixth blast furnace was commissioned at the Novolipetsk metallurgical plant and large capacities were commissioned to extract iron ore and produce concentrate, steel, coke, steel pipes and ferroalloys.

In nonferrous metallurgy capacities were increased for the production of aluminum, titanium, and the extraction and enrichment of nonferrous metal ores.

In the chemical industry the construction of the country's largest complex for the production of acrylonitrile--a very valuable raw material in the production of synthetic wool and other consumer goods--was completed at the Saratov Nitron Production Association. A large-scale complex for the production of sulfuric acid was completed at the Chardzhou superphosphate plant and capacities were also commissioned for the production of mineral fertilizers, soda ash, chemical plant protection agents, chemical fibers and yarns, synthetic resins and plastics.

In machinebuilding the first section of the Volgodonsk Atomnash plant for the production of modern reactor equipment was commissioned ahead of schedule. Capacities were commissioned for the production of diesels and diesel generators, metallurgical equipment, electric motors and other electrical engineering equipment and apparatus, cable articles, chemical equipment, forging and pressing machinery, instruments, spare parts for automobiles and tractors and other types of machinebuilding output.

In the woodworking and pulp and paper industry capacities were commissioned for timber processing and pulp, paper and furniture production.

In the construction materials industry new manufacturing lines were commissioned for cement production at the Bryansk, Navoi and Karachayevo-Cherkesskiy plants. Capacities were commissioned for the production of window glass, ceramic tiles, and other construction materials.

New enterprises in the light and food industries were commissioned, including a yarn spinning factory in Donetsk, Rostovskaya Oblast; a cotton spinning factory in Makeyevak; a chinaware factory in Dobrush, Gomelskaya Oblast; a brewery in Barnaul; dairy plants in Tomsk and Odessa; a meat combine in Glazov, Udmurtskaya ASSR, and a canned dairy goods combine in Shadrinsk, Kurganskaya Oblast.

The installation of the unique Ilichevsk-Varna ferry service was completed, as was the first section of the Vostochnyy Port, the country's largest deep-water mechanized port.

Enormous volumes of construction and installation work were carried out in a short time and over 1,500 km of rail track was laid on the Baykal-Amur Railroad under harsh conditions.

In agriculture livestock premises and mechanized farmsteads and complexes for 4 million cattle, 2.5 million pigs, and 4.4 million sheep were commissioned by means of modernization and new construction. Poultry factories' capacities increased by 8.5 million laying hens and poultry meat factory capacities increased by over 60 million birds a year. Silage and cured hay installations with a capacity of 15 million cubic meters and mechanized storehouses for mineral fertilizers, toxic chemicals and lime materials with a storage capacity of 2.5 million tons were commissioned.

Some 760,000 hectares of irrigated land, including 250,000 hectares of irrigated hayfields and pastures, were commissioned. Some 7.2 million hectares of pasture were irrigated. In the Non-Chernozem Zone of the RSFSR and other parts of the country 680,000 hectares of waterlogged and marshy land were drained, including over 500,000 hectares with covered drainage.

Capital investments in the national economy from all sources of finance totaled R128.7 billion and rose 5 percent compared with 1977; the plan was fulfilled.

The volume of contract work fulfilled by state construction and installation organizations totaled R64.2 billion and increased 2 percent; the plan was 98 percent fulfilled.

Interfarm construction organizations fulfilled the contract work plan by 97.4 percent and the volume of work rose 4 percent.

Labor productivity in construction rose 2.2 percent; about 90 percent of the increase in the volume of construction and installation work was obtained by increasing labor productivity.

The introduction of efficient materials and structures and progressive work methods made it possible to insure a further improvement in the technical standard of construction. Compared with the previous year the volume of fully prefabricated construction rose 4 percent and construction of large-panel housing rose 2 percent. Progressive structures made of prestressed and light concretes and economical types of steel sheet began to be used more widely.

At the same time there were shortcomings in capital construction. The plan for commissioning fixed capital and many production capacities was not fulfilled. Fragmentation of capital investments is still being allowed. The scale of uncompleted construction as a whole and for individual ministries and departments exceeds the established norms. Many construction and installation organizations failed to fulfill the plans for contract work, and labor productivity and profit growth.

V. The Rise in the People's Material and Cultural Living Standards

The average annual number of workers and employees in the national economy increased by 2.1 million, reaching 108.5 million, while the number of kolkhoz members employed in the kolkhozes' public sector totaled 14.2 million.

As in previous years, full employment of the able-bodied population was insured; there was a manpower shortage in certain regions of the country.

Per capita real income increased by 3 percent over the year.

The targets for the growth of the average monthly wage of workers and employees, kolkhoz members' earnings and public consumption funds were fulfilled.

The average monthly monetary wage of workers and employees in the national economy totaled R160 as against R155 in 1977. With the addition of payments and benefits from the public consumption funds, wages increased from R212 to R219.

The wage and salary increase for working people in the nonproduction sectors which began in December 1976 continued in 1978. In 1977 this measure was carried out in areas of the far north and localities equated with them, in the European north, and in areas of the Far East and Siberia. In 1978 it was carried out in areas of the Urals, Kazakhstan, Central Asia, the Volga area and the Volga-Vyatka Region. In 1979 the increase in the wage and salary rates of personnel in the nonproduction sectors will everywhere be completed.

The implementation of measures to improve the working conditions and earning of personnel in the coal and shale industry and mine construction continued in 1978. The earnings of certain categories of personnel employed in ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, the textile industry, construction and agriculture have been raised.

Kolkhoz members' earnings increased by 4.4 percent.

Payments and benefits received by the population from public consumption funds totaled R105.5 billion and increased by R5.7 billion over the year.

The norms of expenditure on catering and the acquisition of medicines in a number of public health institutions and residential homes for invalids and the aged were increased. Additional benefits were introduced in the pensions for kolkhoz members. Additions to the grants of a number of categories of students in vocational and technical schools were instituted. The free provision of textbooks for pupils in the first grades of general educational schools was introduced 1 September 1978.

State internal loan bonds continued to be liquidated.

The population's saving deposits increased by R14.4 billion.

Retail trade turnover in state and cooperative trade totaled R239.7 billion and increased by R9 billion compared with 1977. The annual plan for retail trade turnover was fulfilled by 100.7 percent.

The sales of individual goods in state and cooperative trade were characterized by the following figures:

1978 Sales as Percentage of 1977

Bread products	103
Meat and meat products	102
Fish and fish products	100
Butter	101
Vegetable oil	103
Margarine	103
Whole milk products	101
Cheese	106
Eggs	106
Sugar	102
Confectionery	96
Tea	108
Potatoes	100
Vegetables	107
Citrus and other fruit	101
Clothing, underwear and textiles	105
Knitwear	105
Hosiery	107
Leather footwear	104
China, earthenware and glassware	110
Soap and detergents	105

Furniture	105
Refrigerators	105
Washing machines	102
Electric vacuum cleaners	106
Clocks and watches	103
Cameras	109
Motorcycles and Motor scooters	102
Bicycles and motor-assisted bicycles	104
Radios and radio phonographs	101
Television sets	112
Including color sets	120
Passenger cars	106

Notwithstanding the growth of trade turnover, the population's increasing demands for certain foodstuffs and industrial goods was not fully satisfied--in particular, demand for livestock products, cotton fabrics and certain other goods.

The volume of consumer services to the population increased by 7.9 percent compared with 1977 and by 9.7 percent in rural localities. The prescribed plan for the volume of consumer service sales to the population was fulfilled.

The further upsurge of the country's economy and the growth of retail trade turnover and services to the population insured the stability of monetary circulation.

State and cooperative enterprises and organizations, kolkhozes and the population constructed 2.1 million new apartments with all amenities and individual houses with a total area of about 109 million square meters. This made it possible to improve the housing conditions of almost 11 million people. The construction of apartment buildings using new standard designs providing improved apartment layout and greater comfort gained broad scope. General educational schools with 1.4 million places, preschool institutions with almost 600,000 places, hospitals with 65,000 beds, medical room and polyclinic institutions for 123,000 visits per shift and many other cultural and consumer service facilities were commissioned. At the same time the country as a whole and also certain union republics, ministries and departments underfulfilled the plan for housing, cultural and everyday construction.

Work has been carried out to provide populated centers with amenities. During the year gas supplies were connected to 2.8 million apartments, including 1.2 million in rural localities. Trolley services were opened in Batumi, Bobruysk, Vitebsk and Severodonetsk. New sections of subway lines were commissioned in Moscow, Leningrad and Kharkov.

A broad program of measures was implemented to make rational use of natural resources and conserve the environment. Capital investments for these purposes totaled R1.8 billion.

The further development of public education, science and culture continued. More than 95 million people were involved in various types of instruction: 44.7 million were in general educational schools; 1.9 million in secondary vocational and technical schools; 4.7 million in tekhnikums and other secondary specialized educational establishments; and 5.1 million in VUZes.

In 1978 5.2 million young men and women graduated from secondary educational establishments--1.3 million without time off from production.

At present there are 9.3 million pupils--9 percent more than last year--in extended day schools and groups.

More than 13 million children are provided for by permanent preschool institutions. Some 5 million children--almost 2 million of them of preschool age--are served by seasonal children's establishments.

The number of scientific personnel totaled 1.3 million.

In 1978 1,997,000 specialists, including 771,000 with higher education and 1,226,000 with secondary specialized education, entered the national economy.

Some 1,026,000 people were admitted to VUZes, 624,000 of them to day departments--11,000 more than in 1977. Some 1,434,000 people were admitted to secondary specialized educational establishments, 933,000 of them to day departments, or almost 8,000 more than last year.

Over the year vocational and technical educational establishments trained 2.2 million young skilled workers and about 2.5 million people were admitted to them--more than 700,000 of them to secondary vocational and technical schools.

Over 37 million people were trained in new vocations through individual, team and course tuition in enterprises, institutions, organizations and kolkhozes or improved their qualifications in institutes, faculties or courses and in schools.

The urban and rural population is served by more than 130,000 mass libraries with over 1.7 billion books. The number of books and pamphlets published in 1978 totaled 1.9 billion copies.

The number of movie facilities was more than 152,000 and 4 billion visits were made to the movies during the year.

The population's medical services and organized leisure expanded. The number of physicians in every specialist field increased by 26,000 over the year and totaled 923,000.

The number of places in sanatoriums, boarding houses and rest homes and centers increased by 63,000 and the number of places in tourist centers increased by 10,000. Some 51 million working people and members of their families underwent treatment or vacationed in sanatorium and resort establishments, rest homes and tourist centers. Some 155 million people participated in excursions.

In the course of the year about 23 million children and teenagers vacationed in young pioneer and school camps and at excursion and tourist centers or went out for the summer to country localities with children's establishments.

The 1979 all-union population census is being completed in all regions of the country.

[Signed] the USSR Central Statistical Administration

CSA Chief's Press Conference

LD191826 Moscow TASS in English 1703 GMT 19 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 19, TASS--For Soviet people last year was a good one. The basic indices of the country's economic and social development plan have been fulfilled, some of them overfulfilled, a press conference in Moscow was told today by Lev Volodarskiy, chief of the USSR central statistical board.

The national income, channeled for consumption and accumulation, has grown by 4 percent, in accordance with the planning target. Industrial output increased by 4.8 percent.

The past year was a record one for the gross production of grain--235 million tons. Per capita real incomes of the population increased by 3 percent, wages and salaries in industry increased, payment for collective farmers' work rose, the scope of communal services increased. More than 2 million well-appointed flats were built.

The growth of the Soviet national economy was based on rapid scientific-technical progress, Volodarskiy said. Highly productive machine-tools, automatic production lines, electronic instruments were created. Increased output was achieved mainly on account of raising labour productivity. This is particularly important if one takes into account that the consequences of the Second World War are not starting to affect the country's economy: The influx into the economy of manpower resources has dropped. [sentence as received]

At the same time Volodarskiy noted that for a number of reasons, in agriculture, because of unfavourable weather conditions, some of the planned targets were underfulfilled.

The year 1979 will see accelerating rates in all the branches of the national economy, Lev Volodarskiy stated.

PARTY'S ROLE IN RECTIFYING ECONOMIC SHORTCOMINGS STRESSED

LD240803 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jan 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "With a High Degree of Responsibility"]

[Excerpts] To achieve new successes in all avenues of our work in the fourth year of the 5-year plan--that is the thought by which millions of Soviet people are living today. Welcoming the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum as a militant action program, labor collectives are striving from the very first days of January to work in a shock manner and insure the unconditional fulfillment of state plans and socialist pledges.

The CPSU Central Committee November Plenum raised the question: Are individual economic leaders treating the party and government decisions too lightly? Under conditions in which our economy faces increasingly large-scale and complex tasks, the significance of the degree of organization, discipline and harmony in the work of the different social production components increases.

Priority measures are of course needed to liquidate "bottlenecks" which prevent the fulfillment of plans. The laggards were named at recent party committee plenums and aktiv meetings. The same thing was discussed specifically at oblast and kray party conferences. Where such shortcomings have been revealed it is necessary to rectify the situation immediately. [paragraph continues]

But it would be wrong to act like a "fire brigade" where the party committee saves a "burning" plan first in one place, then in another, takes on the functions of controller and supplants economic organs. The main task is to create an effective system of constant exactingness toward cadres and to teach them the ability not only to resolve current questions successfully but also to work for the long term. Otherwise any enterprise, even one which was not bad in the past, runs the risk of falling behind.

In particular, this is precisely what happened with the Lipetsk tractor plant. At the oblast party conference serious complaints were made against its leaders because the vehicles produced here have not been modernized for a long time and a high-powered new row-crop tractor is being developed only slowly. The criticism was justified. But the obkom, which did not draw attention promptly to the situation and did not take steps to prevent it, also deserves reproach.

An effective means for molding responsibility is skillfully organized party control and verification of execution. For instance, reports by production leaders at party committee bureau sessions have given a good account of themselves. This discussion should be benevolent and objective and at the same time exacting. It is important that everything contradicting the principles of socialist economic management should receive a principled assessment and a resolute rebuff. Soviet people refuse to accept as an explanation of difficulties pleas of thriftlessness, irresponsibility and negligence. To display initiative, to make better use of internal reserves, to overcome difficulties and not merely to "announce" them--that is the correct position for the economic planner.

Cases where violations of state discipline and abuses of official position are concealed with the aid of exaggerated data are particularly intolerable. This sometimes occurs with the connivance of individual party committees, ministries and departments. Thus the Chuvashskaya Oblast party conference criticized the unprincipledness of former Altayrskiy Raykom First Secretary N. Legudeva, who allowed a number of local enterprise leaders to resort to exaggerated data and receive unmerited bonuses. And here is a case mentioned at the Belorussian CP Central Committee plenum. V. Bavrín, the republic's minister of the meat and dairy industry, transferred to responsible work in the ministry Gimelfarb, a former director of the Mogilev meat combine who had regularly engaged in deception. This protection of failed economic planners can seriously prejudice the education of cadres. We must not tolerate this.

With a view to intensifying leading workers' personal responsibility, it is necessary to improve the control of primary party organizations over the activity of the administration and to develop criticism and self-criticism. If an atmosphere of mutual exactingness reigns in the collective, if the communists reveal shortcomings without concern for rank, complex problems are resolved more rapidly. Primary party organizations are called upon to promote by every means the creation of just such an atmosphere.

Political maturity, creative initiative and socialist enterprise, as well as a sense of high responsibility for the matter in hand characterize our economic cadres. The work of party committees and primary organizations is aimed at further developing these qualities. In improving the style of the leadership of the economy they are promoting the successful fulfillment of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the plans for the 10th 5-Year Plan.

RULES GOVERNING PRIVATE PLOT FARMING DESCRIBED

LD240801 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jan 79 Morning Edition p 6 LD

[Article by L. Zaytsev, deputy chief of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture Main Administration for Kolkhoz Affairs: "Workers' and Employees' Subsidiary Plots"]

[Text] Current legislation contains norms which provide incentives for the running of private subsidiary plots and the development of collective horticulture and truck-gardening. The size of private plots and norms for the keeping of livestock by the families of workers, employees and other citizens who are not kolkhoz members are laid down for each union republic.

Local Soviet ispolkoms, agricultural enterprises and other organizations give land to citizens with livestock for grazing and haymaking. Sovkhozes and other enterprises must provide fodder for the private plots of sovkhov workers and teachers, doctors and other specialists living and working on farm territory, help with the cultivation of the plots, provide transport and so forth. Workers and employees who wish to obtain livestock can receive credit for the acquisition of cows (up to R500) and for the acquisition of heifers (up to R250). The figures apply to one family. The repayment term is 5 years.

Consumer cooperatives purchase the surplus agricultural produce from citizens. In order to stimulate purchases, there is a system of preferential sales of industrial goods in short supply to those marketing surpluses in accordance with contracts. Citizens with whom contracts have been concluded can be given a cash advance when livestock products are purchased.

There are wider opportunities for the development of collective horticulture. It is possible to put to garden use state reserve land and state forestry land which is not liable to afforestation and which lies outside urban green zones or beyond the limits of other populated centers taking into account the future expansion of their territory. In the absence of the abovementioned land, an exception can be made whereby nonagricultural land occupied by enterprise, organization and institution rural subsidiary plots, kolkhoz and sovkhov land which cannot be used and also unutilized state forestry land within urban and populated center green zones not liable to afforestation can be handed over for garden use.

The size of plots for members of horticultural associations is laid down for each union republic. In the RSFSR the figure is 600 square meters per family.

Taking into account local conditions, the members of horticultural associations and cooperatives are permitted to erect well-equipped small houses and outbuildings on garden plots. For example, in the RSFSR horticultural associations are permitted to erect, in accordance with approved plans, boardinghouses, fruit stores and other general-purpose buildings and association members are permitted to construct garden houses (with solid-fuel heating) with a useful area of between 12 and 25 square meters with up to 10 square meters of terrace per family (if necessary with an attic in excess of the established dimensions and a cellar). Moreover, it is permitted to construct a utility building of about 15 square meters.

Workers and employees--members of horticultural associations (cooperatives)--are given credit of about R1,000 to be repaid over 5 years, to acquire or construct garden houses and to equip garden plots. By agreement with trade union organizations enterprise leaders are permitted to use a fixed part of the social and cultural measures and housing construction fund for the construction of roads and a water supply system, for electrification and other work connected with providing amenities for collective gardens.

AGRICULTURE MINISTRY REVIEWS WINTERING OF CATTLE

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[Text] The Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture today reviewed the progress of wintering of cattle in the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes. For the first time farms and complexes have to carry out their work in very stormy weather conditions. The farms' productivity has gone down in many regions, due to strong frosts.

As USSR Agriculture Minister Comrade Mesyats noted at the Collegium session, some farms have failed to properly organize the work of the food preparation shops [kormotsekh] in the given conditions. Due to this, the quality of fodder given to cattle does not always correspond to high requirements.

Other, major reserves for increasing the productivity of farms and complexes exist. In particular, the Collegium session has analyzed the state of affairs in the farms of Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast. Here there are very many cows per given area of land. A sufficient amount of fodder had been prepared. Winter turned out to be mild: Frosts did not go lower than 12 degrees. However, the milk yield is lower than in many Ukrainian oblasts. The reason for this is that front-ranking expertise and scientific achievements are being poorly utilized.

Breeding work has not been organized properly. Due to this, low-yield cattle are to be found in farms. Numerous feed preparation shops and fodder steamers are idle.

Farms and complexes of the Moskovskaya Oblast are working in difficult conditions this winter. However, their productivity has not decreased. During the current, severe winter more than 5,000 liters of milk are obtained on average per cow annually.

The Collegium session has reviewed in detail the state of affairs in the Kostromskaya Oblast's farms. The oblast turned out to be in the epicenter of the strong December frosts that reached -57 degrees here. A difficult situation has come about: Water supply and heating systems broke down in the farms. Workers from industrial enterprises have come to the aid of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. It took them a short time to restore water supply and heating systems.

The state has sent a large quantity of fodder concentrate to the farms of the Kostromskaya Oblast and other oblasts of the Non-Chernozem Zone. Volgograd and Rostov land cultivators and those from other oblasts and the Krasnodarskiy Kray went to the aid of the farms in these regions.

The Collegium session has named other measures which should be conducive to a more organized implementation of wintering at the farms and complexes and to raising their productivity.